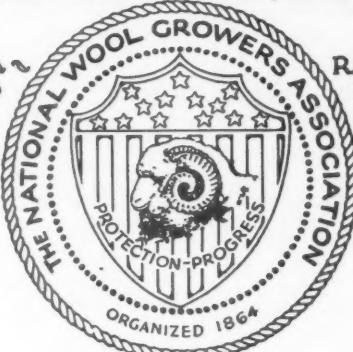


# The NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

COMPREHENSIVE REPORTS OF ~ ~  
AND ACTIVITIES OF SHEEP  
TO NON MEMBERS ~ UNITED  
FOREIGN

RANGE AND MARKET CONDITIONS  
RAISERS ORGANIZATIONS  
STATES & CANADA \$150 PER YEAR.  
\$200 PER YEAR.



Vol. XVIII. No. 3

March, 1928

## The Outlook for Wool

## Seeding Range Lands by Airplane

## The Live Stock Freight Rates

## Purdue University Lamb Rations



# Receipts of Sheep at DENVER

During 1927 showed the following increases  
from western states:

STATE	1926	1927	INCREASE	PER CENT
Utah .....	82,383	159,298	76,715	93%
Idaho .....	141,290	178,134	36,844	26%
Oregon .....	31,314	59,724	28,410	90%
Texas .....	34,574	71,810	37,236	107%
Montana .....	19,951	5,094	14,857	291%
New Mexico .....	223,366	193,042	30,324	16%

CATTLE RECEIPTS AT DENVER INCREASED FOR THE YEAR 111,116 HEAD OR 21%. WYOMING increased her marketing of cattle at Denver from 41,986 in 1926 to 57,115 in 1927, an INCREASE of 15,129 or 36%. New Mexico from 36,852 in 1926 to 47,457 in 1927, an increase of 10,605 or 29%. Idaho from 2,778 in 1926 to 10,273 in 1927, an increase of 7,495 or 270%. Utah from 5,535 in 1926 to 9,540 in 1927, an increase of 4,005 or 72%.

Colorado Cattle Shippers, those closest to the Denver Market and in the best position to know its advantages, increased their marketing at Denver from 396,081 head in 1926 to 460,027 in 1927, an increase of 63,946 or 16%.

DENVER HAD TO BE AN EXCELLENT CATTLE AND SHEEP MARKET TO ATTRACT THESE INCREASES.



**SHEEP and LAMB GROWERS and FEEDERS**  
**SHIP TO THE**  
**KANSAS CITY STOCK YARDS**  
**BECAUSE THEY GET**  
**Highest Prices and Best Service**  
**ON THE MISSOURI RIVER**

**The Kansas City Market Will Continue to Maintain Best Prices**

Within the past year yarding service and handling facilities have been increased by extensive improvements in the sheep barns.

Through train service on Union Pacific from Laramie to feed lots at Marysville, Kansas, 149 miles from Kansas City, and feed lots and pasture at Bismark Grove, Kansas, 38 miles from Kansas City.

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Utah shipments moving via Pueblo, will find excellent feeding facilities at the new Missouri Pacific Feed Yards at Leeds, Missouri, 10 miles from Kansas City, and at Emporia, 110 miles and Morris, 10 miles from Kansas City on A. T. & S. F. Ry.

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J. Clark Eastes  
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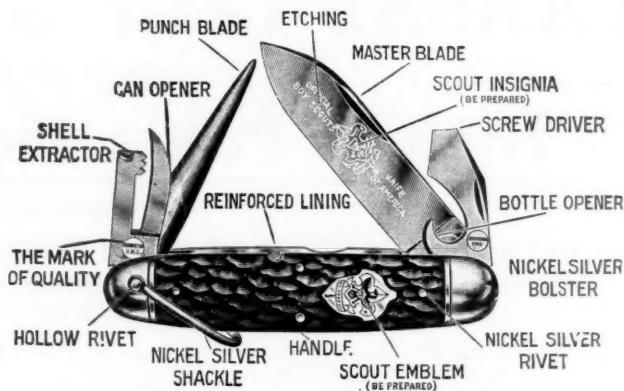
For two NEW subscriptions to the National Wool Grower, \$1.50 each, we will send either one of the knives shown below. One is the regulation scout knife and the other a very fine stock knife. The name "Remington" tells the story of their quality.



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Spey, 1 Sheepfoot, Both Blue Glazed; Nickel  
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Weight, per dozen, 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.



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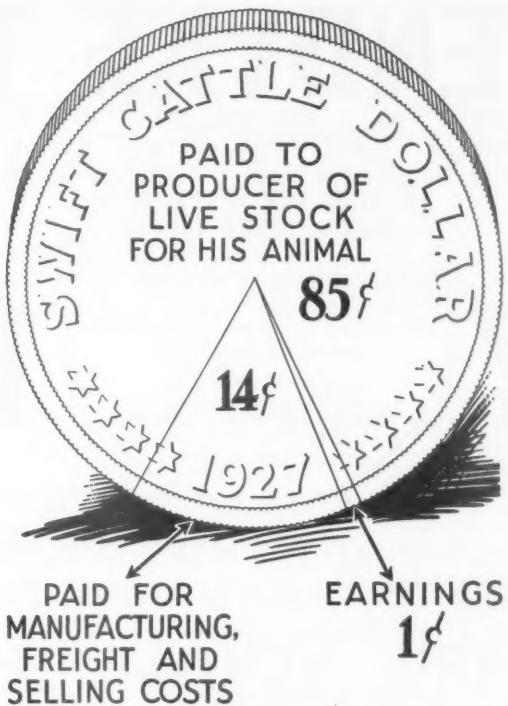
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IN THEORY the meat packer should be able to make money, whether live stock prices are high or low. His profits represent a service rendered.

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President

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5. Has experienced personnel of wool men handling its wools, who have spent entire lives in the wool business and who have occupied positions of trust and responsibility with largest mills, dealers, and top makers in this country.
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13. Endorsed by state and National Wool Growers Associations.

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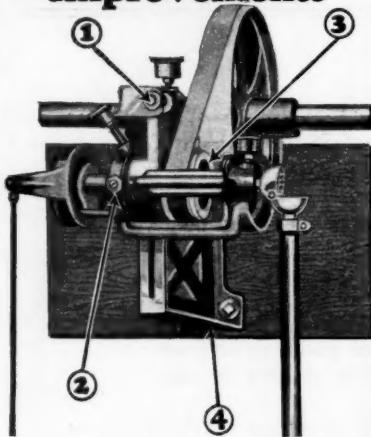
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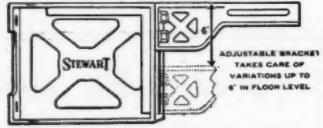


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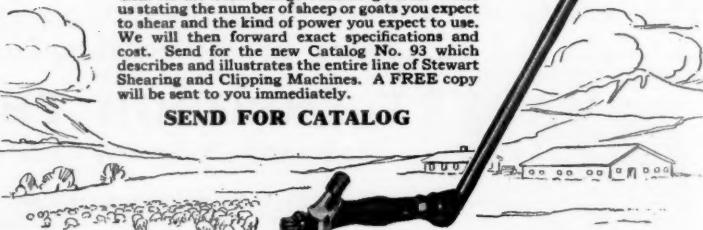
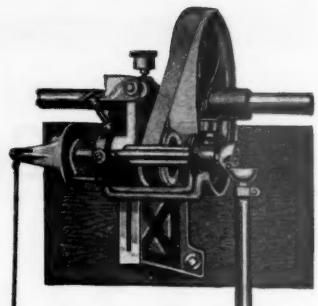
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# THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

VOL. XVIII

MARCH, 1928

NUMBER III

## NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

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Salt Lake City, Utah.

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## THE EDITOR'S BOX

#### Rules in Selling:

It used to be said that the only thing certain in the stock exchanges and commodity markets was that the market would never do the same thing twice in succession. Now, however, the lamb market has for three years advanced in February, though it would be hazardous to count upon its doing the same thing next year.

For three years, beginning in 1925, prices of wool in western states were generally lower at shearing time than earlier. Of course, the conditions prevailing in western ranch sales of wool do not permit of considering such prices to be a reflection of the true condition of the wool trade, but the prices so established must be regarded by those who, by choice, or financial necessity, or as victims of an unsound selling system, do their own selling and at home.

Although shearing time is still some distance off in most states, this year promises to bring a departure in the recent seasonal trend of prices. As contracting continued, prices moved up, which is of itself a change from other recent years. It is plain that what happens one year offers little suggestion of the course to be followed the year following in wool selling. The problem of when to sell is a fresh one each spring and to be considered and decided in view of the facts of the market at the time.

#### The Effect of More Sheep:

The January 1 estimates of the Department of Agriculture indicate a larger number of ewes on hand in most sheep raising states than a year ago. Whether western ranges are being overstocked will not be known or realized until a really adverse feed season comes along. The farm increase is not necessarily affected to a serious extent by drouth as in no cases are farm flocks of sufficient size seriously to tax the capacity of the fields or pastures in which they graze.

It is somewhat surprising to find that within the past three years the advice and directions of the United States Department of Agriculture have strongly gone to the idea of adapting the production of crops and animals to national requirements, and this without protest or objection from the non-agricultural population. It is another form of adopting for agriculture the principles successfully observed by manufacturers. At the same time the domestic demand for lamb seems possible of material expansion and this is being sought for by producers and feeders as another way of maintaining the best possible balance between supply and demand.

Academic writers often have insisted that American wool production has never been increased as a result of the protective tariff. The absurdity of their position was apparent to any one in the business. The officially reported numbers of sheep for each year since 1922, when the present scale of duties took effect, and the reports of wool grown each year leave no room for even a theorist to deny that the effect of the tariff has been to augment domestic wool production.

#### Dressing Lambs:

The letter from Mr. Braden, printed in the February Wool Grower, did not relate to packer lambs killed under federal inspection. Unfortunately, this fact was not made clear.

Under modern packer methods of handling, dressing and merchandising lamb there are no reports of any fancied or real objectionable taste or flavor. To their methods of dressing is largely due the present great and growing assurance of consumers that lamb is an attractive and dependable meat. It is to the detriment of lamb raisers that some butchers who kill for local trade in western towns are not as cleanly or as careful in their

slaughter houses as is desired or as is necessary in plants that have federal inspection.

Associations might well afford to check up on the quality and condition of lamb offered for sale in their states. The Gibson Company at Yakima, Wash., one of the progressive concerns in the West, states that the local sale of lamb was doubled following the Washington Wool Growers' Convention and the educational work done by the association and by Mr. Hartzell, lamb demonstration specialist of the National Wool Growers Association.

#### CONTRACTS ON 1928 LAMBS

Advance contracting of lambs which was begun in January has not been so extensive as in the same part of last year. January contracts were reported as having been written at ten and ten and one-half cents. Eleven cents was said to have been paid in Colorado.

Some of the largest of the early contracts were made last year by parties who resold them to Colorado feeders, or who acted as agents of the feeders. Contracts for most of this year's lambs that have been taken are still held by the contractors though it is impossible to say what engagements these men have regarding re-sales.

Feeders' organizations in Colorado are urging their members to refrain from contracting lambs until after the lambing season and to deal directly with the raisers themselves. They refer to prospects of a large crop of lambs and the improbability of strong competition from corn-belt feeders who have not fared well during the last two years.

A move has also been proposed by the feeders in respect to heavy lambs. It is proposed that contracts provide for lower prices on lambs delivered at a weight of over 65 pounds. The price reduction would be at the rate of ten cents per hundred for each pound above 65 pounds. With lambs contracted at ten cents, the price for 70-pound lambs would be nine and one-half cents.

It is also reported that some small lots of Colorado lambs have been signed up to nearby feeders at eleven cents.

## THE LIVE STOCK FREIGHT RATES

Railroads Ask Higher Rates—Wool Growers Ask Reduced Rates and Lower Car Loading Weights

Hearings on live-stock freight rates were reopened at Chicago on February 6 under the direction of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The time from February 6 to 16 at Chicago was taken by witnesses for the railroads. The roads also had their witnesses on the stand at Kansas City continuously from February 17 to March 1.

Live-stock shippers, through officers of various associations and also by testimony of a number of cattle and sheep raisers, began their testimony on March 2 and expected to continue until March 10. A further hearing has been scheduled by the Interstate Commerce Commission to be opened at Chicago on March 26, but testimony at that time will be restricted to rebuttal of statements previously introduced.

These hearings are a continuation of those begun at Salt Lake City on June 30 last and then continued at Portland, Los Angeles, Ft. Worth, and still later at St. Paul. Similar proceedings are under way in respect to rates on grain, cotton, and several other classes of commodities. The entire series is known as Interstate Commerce Commission Docket No. 17,000, the live-stock rates being designated as Part 9 of that docket.

The procedure originated with the passage by Congress, on January 30, 1925, of the Hoch-Smith resolution, under the terms of which the Interstate Commerce Commission was called upon to investigate the entire freight rate structure of the country with a view of making needed adjustments to distribute more fairly between different sections of the country and between different industries the payment of freight rates needed properly to support the transportation systems. It was the general understanding at the time action was taken by Congress that farm products and live stock should be given more favorable rates than previously, such action being considered justifiable in the interests of the economic welfare of the country as a whole.

Hearings were held in the fall of 1925 by the Commission for the purpose of se-

curing the information necessary and upon which a policy could be founded and future rates determined. Prior to the opening of the 1925 hearings, the railroads asked the Interstate Commerce Commission for authority to increase their freight rates by approximately 5 per cent. This petition, known as Ex Parte 87, was set down to be included along with the hearings on agricultural commodities under Docket 17,000. At that time the Wool Grower spoke of the clever strategy of the carriers in securing a discussion of increased rates instead of one to establish a basis of decreased rates for farm products and live stock. Most of the testimony then offered by shippers was aimed against the increase and the case for reductions under the Hoch-Smith resolution was strongly urged. In July, 1926, the Commission decided that no increases in rates should be allowed as asked for in Ex Parte 87, but stated that insufficient testimony had been received for establishing the new policy or a revision in the freight rates. On May 16, 1927, announcement was made that further hearings would be held. Those for live stock were begun as above stated.

During the 1927 hearings the railroads made no announcement or proposal as to what future rates should be on live stock. At Chicago last month, and also at Kansas City, they proposed schedules which would increase present rates by from 10 to 25 per cent. In some sections the final rate they would put in would be less than 10 per cent and in some instances in the northwestern states, it would amount to 40 per cent. A number of stockmen from Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and Kansas who were called by the railroads testified that the depression had passed, that conditions now are good and that the present rates are satisfactory. Evidence exactly to the contrary was offered at Kansas City by cattlemen called by the Kansas Live Stock Association and examined by Secretary J. H. Mercer, who also appeared on the witness stand.

The carriers' proposals would make five districts of the region between Chicago

and the Pacific with rates increasing as the West is entered. The highest scale would apply from western Montana and Wyoming, Idaho, and the states west. That is the rate per mile would increase, the scales all being submitted on a mileage basis. In most cases allowance would be made for the fact that live stock shipped for one thousand to two thousand miles can be handled more economically than for short distances. Shipments from the mountain and coast states would pay under the higher general scale proposed to apply in those states even when passing through the lower rated states nearer to the markets.

The railroads had much to say of their bad financial condition, of the increased wages they must pay, of their failure to earn the prescribed five and three-quarters per cent on their book value. It was again claimed that live-stock rates have been disproportionately low and that considerable expense attaches to the transportation of live stock, which is not involved with other commodities.

The National Wool Growers Association was represented by the Secretary and by H. W. Prickett, who was employed for this case as traffic counsel for the association. They testified on March 5 and 6. Other testimony was presented by Donald McLean and C. W. Polk, Idaho; J. H. Manderfield, Utah, and Irving F. Haines, Rockyford, Colorado. Several witnesses had been presented at the earlier hearings.

It should have been stated that the carriers proposed continuation of the old policy of adjusting rates to secure the same amount for hauling a double deck car of sheep as for a car of lambs. However, they asked that in most of the western territory the minimum car weight for cattle should be raised from 22,000 to 24,000 pounds and that the sheep car weights should also be 24,000 pounds. This would increase the charges both on the rate per hundred pounds and on the weight for which freight must be made.

The National Wool Growers Association introduced and supported its previously prepared proposal under which the minimum car weight should be 20,000 pounds or less and the present rate per hundred should be lowered by from 10 to 15 per cent. It was suggested for

the association that the scale of rates introduced should apply for shipments over two or more different railroads and on movements from the western states to feed lots, or to eastern or western markets, and for going in any direction. A comparison of the present rates from three points with those suggested for the future from the same points is shown for double deck cars of sheep:

	Present Rate		Rate Suggested Would Be
Pendleton to Portland.....	\$ 82	car	\$ 52 car
Mountain Home, Idaho to Portland.....	127	"	84 "
Soda Springs to Portland..	144.50	"	106 "
Pendleton to Omaha.....	216.20	"	152 "

23,000 lbs. per car 20,000 lbs. per car  
at 94c per cwt. at 76c per cwt.  
Mountain Home  
to Omaha....23,000 lbs. @ 80c 20,000 lbs. @ 66c  
Soda Springs  
to Omaha....23,000 lbs. @ 70c 20,000 lbs. @ 59c

Strong objection was also entered for the sheep industry to the claims regarding the extra expense incurred by the railroads in connection with unloading stock for feed, rest, and water, as required by the 28-hour law. It was shown, that while the expense of such unloading and reloading is required by law to be absorbed by the railroads, it really is paid after all by the shippers. In the case of feed yards leased out to private parties as well as those operated by the railroads, the profit on the feed amounted to many times as much as the cost of the unloading service.

Attention also was directed to the charge of four cents per day for pasturing lambs at feed stations near Chicago. The association also has asked railroad officials to lower this charge for 1928.

The examiners who conducted the hearing as representatives of the Commission were inclined to exclude testimony concerning feeding stations and charges, but it was contended for the shippers that such facts were necessary to be considered in connection with the claims as to the extra expense. It was shown that many railroads were now collecting a 'service charge' of 50 cents per car at each stop for feeding and watering and that the charge published for unloading and reloading when the shipper makes request to stop at a particular yard is sometimes

collected when the necessary stop could only have been made at the same yard. Shippers should be very cautious about making requests for stopping for feed and water at specific stations.

What the Interstate Commerce Commission may decide in the case cannot be anticipated. Briefs will be filed by all parties and the examiners will prepare a report and recommendations which will be made public in advance of the official and final decision by the Commission itself. It is hoped that a decision may be reached this year, though it is not uncommon for more than a year to elapse between the close of hearings in such far-reaching cases and the rendering of a decision.

#### U. S. SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS COOPERATIVE MARKETING LAWS

Federal and state laws declaring expressly or in effect that farmers' cooperative associations shall not be deemed monopolies, combinations, or conspiracies in restraint of trade, and that contracts made by such associations with their members are legal, are upheld at least by implication by the Supreme Court of the United States in a decision handed down February 20 in the case of the Liberty Warehouse Company versus the Burley Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Marketing Association.

This decision, says Secretary of Agricultural Jardine, is of farreaching importance because, in addition to validating Kentucky's cooperative marketing laws, it virtually upholds the Federal Capper-Volstead Act, Section 5 of the Clayton Act, and the cooperative marketing statutes passed in forty-two states. In the Kentucky case judgment was affirmed against a warehouse company which bought tobacco from a member of the Burley Association, after being notified that delivery of the tobacco to it would constitute a violation of the member's cooperative contract.

Cooperative marketing acts, the United States Supreme Court indicated, promote the common interest, and provisions for protecting the fundamental contracts against interference by outsiders are essential to the plan. In the suit against the Liberty Warehouse Company, the Burley

Association, which was incorporated under the Bingham Cooperative Marketing Act of Kentucky, recovered a penalty of \$500 prescribed by the act, because the warehouse company received and sold 2,000 pounds of the 1923 tobacco from a member of the Burley Association, although its attention had been called to the penalty provided for such action. This measure authorizes associations formed under it to recover the penalty mentioned "from any person, firm, or corporation conducting a warehouse within the State of Kentucky who solicits or persuades or permits any member of any association organized hereunder to breach his marketing contract with the association by accepting or receiving such member's products for sale or for auction or for display for sale contrary to the terms of any marketing agreement with an association." The association was successful in the lower court, and also when the case was appealed to the Court of Appeals of Kentucky.

In upholding the judgment the United States Supreme Court declared the State of Kentucky undoubtedly had power to authorize the formation of corporations with membership limited to farmers for the purpose of dealing in farm products. The Warehouse Company contended that the Bingham Act deprived it of the right to carry on business in the usual way by accepting and selling the tobacco of persons voluntarily seeking its service. Commenting on this contention, the United States Supreme Court said: "We need not determine whether the liberty protected by the constitution includes the right to induce a breach of contract between others for the aggrandizement of the intermeddler—to violate the nice sense of right which honorable traders ought to serve."

#### SECRETARY FOR OREGON ASSOCIATION CHOSEN

The secretary of the Oregon Wool Growers Association was placed in the hands of Walter A. Holt, county agent of Umatilla County, Oregon, at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the association held at Pendleton on March 1. Mr. Holt takes the place of Mr. Hugh Sproat, who resigned several months ago.

#### TEXAS ASSOCIATION BACK OF LAMB PROMOTION WORK

The executive committee of the Sheep and Goat Raisers Association of Texas met at Junction, Texas, on February 9, and among other things, voted to give strong financial support to the lamb consumption campaign instituted by the National Wool Growers Association. The resolution, which was recently received from President T. A. Kincaid of the Texas Association, reads as follows:

Whereas, the National Wool Growers Association largely through its president, Mr. Hagenbarth, has a well defined and worked out plan which was quite freely outlined by Mr. Hagenbarth to this association at its annual meeting in Kerrville in 1927 to promote the sale and encourage the use of mutton and to prevent what he termed the saturation point in the mutton market, and

Whereas, Mr. Hagenbarth issued a call for funds to carry on the work of the National Association and such has been responded to by the associations and growers of various states, but as yet the sum total contributed from Texas is proportionally much less than that contributed in other sheep raising states and it is the belief that more money should be raised and forwarded to the National Association.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Executive Committee of the Sheep and Goat Raisers Association of Texas in session at Junction, Texas, February 9, 1928, that we favor and heartily endorse the aforesaid plan, and we therefore authorize our president to appoint a committeeman or committeemen in each of the sheep raising counties of West Texas to solicit funds for the purpose named with the view of securing in all the sum of \$2500.00 and the money contributed as paid be forwarded to the National Association with a copy of this resolution to be used for the purpose above outlined, but that no county be called upon to contribute more than \$200.

#### LAMB CONSUMPTION PROGRAM PLANNED BY AUXILIARY

The Executive Board of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Washington Wool Growers met in Yakima, Washington, on February 20. Plans were formulated at that time to put on a series of demonstrations in cutting and cooking cuts of lamb in the different towns of Yakima Valley. The Washington Wool Growers Association is cooperating with the work, and if the program works out with sufficient success, a state-wide demonstration will be carried out.

Mrs. Willis Mercer, Cor. Secy.,  
Auxiliary to Washington  
Wool Growers.

Prosser, Wash.

#### NEW HEAD FOR RODENT AND PREDATORY ANIMAL CONTROL WORK OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Stanley P. Young, of Colorado, formerly of Oregon, has been appointed head of the division of economic investigations of the Bureau of Biological Survey, in charge of the rodent and predatory animal control operations of the United States Department of Agriculture, to succeed Dr. A. K. Fisher, effective February 16. Commenting on this change in administration, Paul G. Redington, chief of the Biological Survey, said Doctor Fisher will be assigned to scientific research work in economic ornithology, his future activities to be concerned primarily with studies of the economic status of the hawks and owls, a subject he has been much interested in for many years and on which he prepared publications for the department as long ago as 1893. Doctor Fisher has been a member of the staff of the Biological Survey since July 1, 1885, when this branch of the department was established, and is considered peculiarly well fitted to handle this assignment, having conducted the original economic ornithological work of the bureau.

Stanley P. Young, who succeeds Doctor Fisher has been in Washington since May 9, 1927, as assistant head of the division.

He was first employed by the Survey in 1917 as hunter of predatory animals in Arizona and has risen through the various grades of hunter, assistant in rodent control, predatory-animal inspector, and assistant leader, in New Mexico, Colorado and Arizona, until in 1921 he was placed in charge of operations against predatory animals in Colorado, a position he left to become assistant head of the division in Washington.

#### LAMB FEEDERS PERFECTING ORGANIZATION

When representatives of the lamb feeders of Colorado and Nebraska met at Greeley, Colorado, on January 17, plans were inaugurated whereby a more effective organization of the feeders could be secured. Adversity in the form of poor markets supplied the impetus and good results have followed. According to the latest information, four local associations have been organized in Colorado and two

March, 1928

## THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

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in Nebraska, and at a meeting to be held in the near future, effort will be made to unite these units under one executive body.

The associations are to be financed through the collection by the commission men of one cent per head on the lambs marketed by the members. Cards authorizing such a deduction are being signed by the feeders. It is contemplated that two-thirds of the amount secured in this way will be turned over to the National Live Stock and Meat Board for use in continuation of the work to promote lamb consumption, and the other third is to be used largely in an effort to secure better distribution of their product, or more orderly marketing.

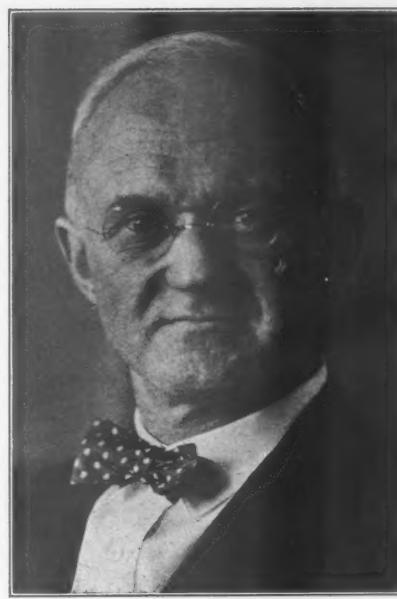
The members of the six local associations feed about 2,000,000 lambs annually, which they estimate represents an annual investment of \$20,000,000, and as stated by one of their leaders, "a saving of one per cent on this amount by orderly buying and orderly marketing means \$200,000 annually." As a part of their orderly buying campaign, it is the present plan to submit for adoption at the next meeting of the representatives of the local organizations a uniform contract to be used in making purchases of lambs. They have also taken action to forestall early contracting on the part of their members which is referred to elsewhere in this issue.

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#### CHIEF FORESTER GREELEY RESIGNS TO GO WITH LUMBER COMPANY—SUCCESSOR NAMED

Col. William B. Greeley, chief of the Forest Service, will resign May 1, 1928, to accept a position with the West Coast Lumber Manufacturers Association, it was announced today by Secretary of Agriculture Jardine. Maj. R. Y. Stuart, now assistant forester in the Forest Service in charge of public relations, has been appointed to succeed Colonel Greeley.

Major Stuart has, like Colonel Greeley, had a wide range of forestry experience and education. He first came to the department in 1906 direct from the Yale Forestry School where he had received an M. F. degree, entering the Forest Service as assistant in timber sale work. After several years in the western national forests, especially in the northern Rocky



**Major R. Y. Stuart, who becomes Chief of the Forest Service on May 1, 1928**

Mountain region where he was forest inspector and chief of operations, he came to the headquarters of the Forest Service in Washington, D. C. In 1917 he was furloughed for military service in France with the 10th Engineers. After the war he returned to the Forest Service but resigned in 1920 to become deputy commissioner of forestry in Pennsylvania. He later served for several years as secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Waters and Forests. On February 16, 1927, he was again called to the United States Forest Service to assume his present position.

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#### ENDORSEMENT OF LAMB CAMPAIGN

Many of us have followed the discussions which have taken place in the Wool Grower as to how best to bring about a more extensive use of lamb throughout the United States. I never was in favor of the plan for general advertising, but I am firmly of the opinion that the right method has been adopted now. In my judgment the most important feature of the campaign which is being put on is that it will have the effect of teaching the ordinary butcher, in the average small town, how to cut up a lamb so as to make the cheaper parts palatable and salable. As it is now, the ordinary

butcher does not handle lamb if he can help it because it is not profitable, and it is not profitable because of the cuts which he cannot sell at a profit. If he can be taught to prepare and sell these heretofore undesirable portions at a profit he will have an incentive for pushing the sale of lamb which he has never had before.

The campaign which you are conducting will also have the effect, of course, of teaching the public what a very superior article good lamb is. It will also ultimately have the effect of inducing at least the better class of butchers to sell only lamb as lamb instead of selling, as some of them do now, yearlings and old ewes as lamb.

I would like to advance the suggestion that the whole matter could be carried one step further as follows: If growers in localities where lambs are grown could be induced to organize locally for the purpose of putting on their own campaign the movement would naturally go much faster. If local campaigns could be put on at the time lambs are ready for the market and the local public induced to buy, there would be a local seasonal consumption of lamb which has not heretofore existed and which would in the aggregate consume a very large number of lambs produced in the country generally. Milk fed lamb—lambs taken directly off from their mothers and killed for local consumption—is the best possible meat to be had. By handling it in this way with no freight charges and the local butcher instructed how to get rid of the cheaper parts it could be sold at a price which would be within the reach of everyone.

Why should there not be a season for milk fed lambs just the same as there is a season for any seasonal commodity? It would vary of course in different parts of the country. The local season in California would be in the late winter and early spring. It would be in the spring months in Oregon and southern Idaho. It would be in the late summer and early fall in Montana, etc. If there is anything in this idea at all enough more could be realized from the sale of lambs for local consumption to justify the growers in organizing locally and putting on their

own campaign with only slight assistance from the National Association Committee, such as furnishing literature, etc. These local movements coupled with the very efficient work which your organization is now doing would together bring about increased use of this very desirable commodity, which would have the effect of stabilizing prices and generally benefiting the grower.

In view of the fact that the consumption of mutton per capita in the British Isles is four or five times as great as the consumption per capita in the United States, there is a wonderful chance for improving the situation.

Helena, Mont.

Lewis Penwell

#### MEETING OF SAN JUAN COUNTY WOOL GROWERS

The San Juan County (New Mexico) Wool Growers Association held its annual meeting and election of officers on January 14, 1928. Temple H. Cornelius was reelected president, and Wm. L. Thurston, secretary-treasurer. Bruce Sullivan, A. C. Jaquez, and T. H. Cornelius were chosen as the new members on the advisory board, Chas. Baker and A. C. Brown being the holdover members. The meeting was followed in the evening by a banquet and dance enjoyed by 115 growers and their guests.

This association is accomplishing considerable in a local way and is becoming one of the strongest associations in the state.

Aztec, N. M.

W. L. Thurston

#### VACCINE FOR SPOTTED FEVER

The United States Public Health Service will again be able to supply, free of charge, the experimental vaccine against Rocky Mountain spotted fever, which has been used during the past two years with apparently good results.

Dr. R. R. Spencer, officer in charge of the Spotted Fever Laboratory at Hamilton, Montana, in making this announcement states that requests for this vaccine should be sent in to that office early in the season because they do not expect to be able to manufacture enough of the material to supply the entire demand, and that the requests will be taken care of in the order received as long as the supply lasts.

#### DENVER CHAMBER KILLED WOOL BILL

George A. Flannigan, secretary of the Retail Bureau of the Denver Chamber of Commerce, boasts of killing the truth-in-fabric bill in the Colorado General Assembly last winter. The following extract from an article in the National Clothier, the official publication of the National Retail Clothiers Association, of February 2, contains an account of the statement of Mr. Flannigan at the convention of the Rocky Mountain Retail Clothiers and Furnishers Association and Mens Apparel Club of Colorado on January 16 at Denver.

In 1923 truth-in-fabric bills were killed in sixteen states, principally due to the efforts of the National Retail Clothiers Association and its wonderful organization throughout the nation.

People of Colorado might be interested in knowing how the deed was done in Colorado last winter and future legislatures might not view with alarm deluges of protests if they are shown how organization works. Mr. Flannigan has made a great contribution to the cause of fair legislation by his timely explanation.

People of Wyoming and of other states might be interested in knowing that Wyoming merchants did not oppose the Wyoming truth-in-fabric bill in the legislative session of 1925, when that law was being amended after four years of controversy, during which time the National Retail Clothiers Association had spent thousands of dollars and had, according to their secretary, succeeded in delaying matters in Wyoming.

It would seem, if Wyoming folks want new wool, when they buy wool fabrics, they should trade at home, where clothing merchants don't mind telling what they're selling and don't get mad when asked point blank how much new or virgin wool a garment contains, while they are explaining, with palms up-lifted, that it is guaranteed to be 100 percent pure wool, absolutely. Wool shoddy, or second-hand re-worked wool fabrics are just as truly 100 per cent pure wool as are virgin wool fabrics. It is a question of new or second-hand material.

#### Extract From the National Clothier

Among the more important matters brought up for discussion at the sessions was the "Truth-in-Fabric" bill which was defeated at the last session of the state legislature and the Capper price maintenance bill which is now pending in Congress.

A resolution passed by the clothiers called upon all members of the organization to oppose the passage of the truth-in-fabric bill. This bill would provide that manufacturers of clothing plainly label each piece of material giving the percentage of wool in the texture.

In connection with this matter George A. Flannigan, secretary of the Retail Bureau of the Denver Chamber of Commerce spoke on "Organization."

"Organization," he said, "is one of the greatest functions of trade organizations. Especially is this true in a legislative way."

"If you members of this organization can recall, not one but many of you visited the state capital during the last session of the legislature in an effort to lobby against the passage of the truth-in-fabric bill which would seriously affect your business."

"But how many of you were even given an audience in committee by the various groups of lawmakers?"

"Then organization was called upon. Messages were sent from here to every clothing merchant in Colorado who is a member of this body urging them to wire to their respective representatives before a certain hour on a certain day—and the result is not unknown to any of you—those messages were sent and when a vote was called on the bill in question it was hopelessly defeated."

This result was effected after the bill had passed the lower house and had been passed on second reading in the state senate.

Clothiers of Colorado are in close touch with this bill through their observation of its effect in the sister state of Wyoming. There test case is now pending in the supreme court for a definite ruling as to the constitutionality of such a measure.

Kleber H. Hadsell.

#### UTAH RAMBOUILLETS PURCHASED BY NEW MEXICO FIRM

One thousand yearling Rambouillet rams were recently bought by Frank Bond & Sons of Albuquerque, New Mexico from the Ephraim Rambouillet Association, which is composed of thirty-five breeders in and around Ephraim, Utah. The purchase price has not been announced. It is stated that representatives of the purchasers first took an option on the rams and after shipping two rams to New Mexico and exhibiting them at Las Vegas during the annual convention of the state association, closed the deal. The date of delivery of the rams has not been set definitely, but will be some time during the summer.

The Ephraim Association usually sells between twelve and fifteen hundred rams annually.

## Around the Range Country

The notes on weather conditions appearing under the name of the various states are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau, and based upon reports and publications of that bureau.

The letters are from interested readers. The Wool Grower welcomes and desires such communications from any part of the country and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and statements of occurrences of importance and significance to wool growers.

### WYOMING

Considerable stormy weather with low temperatures was reported, bearing with some stress on live stock generally, and more especially range stuff. There has however, been some supplementary feed available, and plenty of good range well supplied with snow or running water, and the average condition of cattle and sheep is rather good. Despite the temporary suffering in places, there were no losses reported, though some inconvenience resulted from crusted snow. Feeding has not been especially heavy.

### Otto

We have had ideal weather this winter for sheep with the exception of a few days at different times. Sheep generally are in fine condition. No contracting of lambs has been done to my knowledge in this district, while only a few clips of wool remain uncontracted. C. W. Lyman

### Laramie

We have had a very open winter up to date (March 1), with just enough snow right along for water. December, however, was unusually cold; some eighteen to twenty days of it hovered around the zero point. What effect this will have on the range breeding in Wyoming, I do not know, although some are of the opinion that it may cut down the lambing percentage on account of a possible increase in dry ewes. There will also be a further decrease in the lamb crop due to the fact that so many outfits closed out that there are probably around 15 per cent fewer ewes to lamb.

February was an ideal month for stock. There were a few light snows, but temperatures were moderate. Now the feed on the winter range is short, but the grass is thick and has fair strength. Feeding generally has not been necessary, although some supplementary feed, such as corn and cottonseed cake, has been used as required. Hay is priced at \$8 a ton.

No lambs have been contracted as yet, and only the small wool clips have been contracted, pooled and sold at 34 cents. The large clips are being held.

Coyotes are holding their own. We are using private trappers and are not bothered as we used to be.

King Bros. Co.

### Lysite

At this time (February 26) feed is short on the winter range; about 20 per cent of the ewes are regularly fed during the winter in this section. Alfalfa hay can be purchased now at \$10 a ton in the stack.

There was an increase of about ten per cent in the number of ewes bred to lamb this spring. Some of the lambs have been tied up for fall delivery at 11 cents. Some of the wool has also been taken at 35 cents for fine wool estimated to shrink around 60 per cent. Five dollars per head is the usual rate upon which loans are made on breeding ewes by bankers in this district.

Coyotes are on the increase and no effort, according to my knowledge, is being made to curtail them.

Grazing lands are assessed at \$2 an acre.

E. H. Knapp

### MONTANA

Wintry weather was the rule through the month, but conditions were not especially severe for any long periods and live stock have come through in pretty good shape, having had plenty of range feed and moisture, and ample quantities of supplemental feeds, where needed. Lambing is beginning, mostly under favorable weather conditions, and with satisfactory results. Losses of live stock have been comparatively light in the southeastern portion; and no reports were made of losses elsewhere.

### Harlowton

Everyone is feeding their sheep at this time (February 26) as there is snow everywhere and it has crusted. It is the practice, however, here for everyone to feed some during the winter. Hay in the stack can be had at \$10 a ton.

Ten per cent more ewes were bred to lamb this spring than last year. Some contracting on the 1928 crop of lambs has been done recently at ten cents for wethers and 11½ cents for mixed. From 35 to 40 cents has been taking the wools in this section. Banks are loaning from \$5 to \$6 on ewes.

Coyotes are keeping the government trappers very busy these days.

Rene Labrie

### Conrad

Weather conditions are fair here, but there is such a lot of snow and ice that range feeding is very poor. The ewe bands are fed nearly all winter. Alfalfa hay is being bought at \$8 a ton in the stack. About the same number of ewes were bred this year.

Very little wool has been contracted in this section of the country recently and what has been has gone at 40 cents. No lambs have been contracted. Ewes, coming twos, are bringing about \$17 a head and yearlings about \$13, for April delivery.

No reduction in coyote numbers is noticeable, but no trapping is being done in this section.

Frank Burnett

### Volvborg

Stormy weather prevailed during the month of February, but winter range feed is good. All the sheep, however, are fed during the storms. Hay can be purchased at \$5 a ton.

Wools estimated to shrink around 63 per cent have been contracted at 39 cents a pound. There has also been some contracting in wether lambs at 10½ cents. Breeding was done on about the same scale as a year ago. The loaning value on breeding ewes is \$6 a head.

Grazing lands are assessed by the county at \$3 an acre.

Steve Daley

**Gold Butte**

During January we had a warm Chinook; since February 1 it has been fair with little flurries of snow and freezing weather most of the time. All the range has been open since the first of the year and there has been a lot of grass. Feeding is not done regularly here during the winter, that is, so far as I know, and I have been here for over twenty-seven years.

I think that the lamb crop will be about as large as last year's. Some of the wether lambs have been tied up already at \$10 to \$10.15.

Wool contracts have been made on a 37½ to 41-cent basis.

Coyotes are holding their own. We are close to the boundary and they come into our section from other places.

Fred T. Parsell

**IDAHO**

A great deal of cold weather occurred, though with comparatively little stormy conditions, and there was plenty of sunshine. On the whole, conditions favored live stock, most of which were reported on feed, and doing very well. Pastures are showing green generally over the panhandle section, and the prospect for spring range is considered good. Early lambing under cover progressed locally, with splendid results.

**OREGON**

Spring growth and farm work are advancing rapidly, only the higher elevations of the eastern portion remaining under late winter conditions. Precipitation has been copious or sufficient for spring needs to date, and pastures and ranges are improving, especially in the milder areas. Spring lambs are doing well so far as reported.

**Wallowa**

For this mountainous corner of Oregon, the weather since the first of the new year has been fine. The range is also good, better than normal, although about half of the ewes are fed during the winter months. Alfalfa hay in the stack is selling at \$10 a ton.

Cutover lands are valued at \$3 an acre for taxation purposes; timber lands at \$7.50; and winter range at \$4 to \$5.

Very little wool has been contracted,

but what activity there has been has been on a 30-cent basis both for crossbred and fine wools.

A 50 per cent decrease is noted in coyote numbers, due to the united efforts of the county, the sheep association, and the Biological Survey in poisoning the ranges.

Prospects are good for early grass by March 15, with a good per cent of lambs and a good summer range.

Ernest P. Johnson

**WASHINGTON**

Light precipitation is reported generally, but spring growth is generally good in the lower, milder areas. Live stock are doing well, and shed lambing is becoming general in the southeastern portion. Conditions have been excellent for the advancement of spring farming activities.

**Yakima**

January was foggy and cloudy with normal temperatures. The ranges were covered with ice and snow and the sheep were unable to get to the feed. However, most all of the sheep in this locality are fed during the winter months. Some are fed grain and run on the range; others are fed hay (now quoted at \$10 a ton) on the ranches.

There has been very little wool contracting in this district. I only know of three clips that have been taken. These went at prices ranging from 31 cents for mainly fine wool clips shrinking from 60 to 65 per cent, to 33 cents for crossbred wools estimated to have a shrinkage of 55 per cent.

The county assesses grazing lands at \$2 to \$2.50 an acre. Banks will loan from \$5 to \$7 a head on breeding ewes.

Government trappers and men trapping for the fur are able to keep the coyotes at a reasonable number.

February lambing is now (the 7th) going at full blast.

F. S. Wenner.

**Hooper**

Grass is just starting to grow (February 29) on the south slopes, after a month of cold frosty nights, and warm days. Winter range feed is in fair condition. Nearly everyone feeds grain and hay for about sixty days during the winter. Hay can be had at \$11 a ton now.

Some lambs for fall delivery have been tied up at eleven cents. The number of ewes to lamb this spring is about the same as it was a year ago.

A few clips of 1928 wool have been contracted, with those made up mainly of fine wool with a shrink around 70 per cent going at 28 cents.

Coyotes are increasing.

James Richardson

**Pomeroy**

Sheep have come through the winter in good shape. Had one bad storm in December which forced everyone to feed hay. Most of the men, however, feed grain or hay on the range all winter.

There will be a heavy clip of wool in this locality, and from all appearances, there will be a good lambing.

J. L. Jackson

**CALIFORNIA**

Dry weather has prevailed over the great interior valleys and in the southern counties generally, checking the development of pastures, and hindering some crop progress; but more rain in the north, and especially along the coast has been good for spring grasses. Live stock are generally in satisfactory condition, though showing the effects of the drought in many places. Warm weather is also needed throughout the state. Exceptionally favorable weather has prevailed for lambing, which has progressed with unusually good results.

**Cloverdale**

We had temperate weather up to February 1; since then spring, with the feed on the range about six weeks ahead of normal years. Grazing lands are assessed here at from \$2.50 to \$4 an acre.

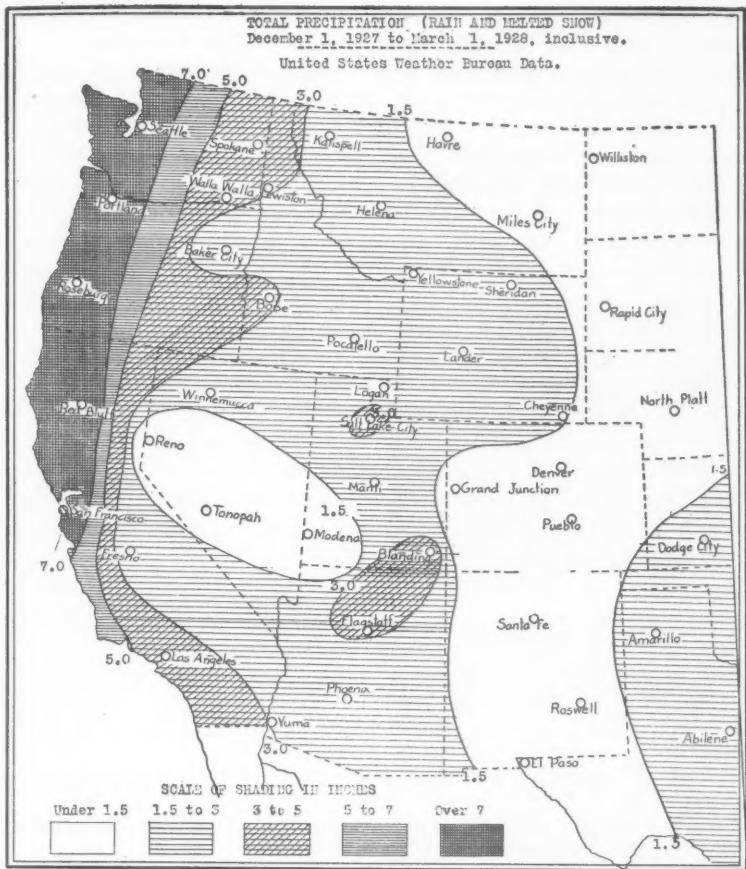
There have been some sales of fine wool estimated to shrink around 60 per cent, at 40 cents.

Coyotes are decreasing.

O. R. Baldwin

(Continued on page 46)

# Rainfall Record for the Winter Season



The table of precipitation totals and departures from normal presented herewith, may carry an element of bad news for the range men of the West, inasmuch as it shows that one of the driest winters in recent years has prevailed throughout the far western range country. True, the spring precipitation may restore the precipitation statistics to normal, but the melting of spring snows is not going to saturate the ground with the usual surplus of water generally, for the reason that there is not enough snow on hand to do it. Only western Wyoming has accumulated an excess of moisture during the past three months, and that excess is not large. The three coast states, having the heaviest normal winter precipitation, show the greatest deficiencies, though generally speaking these large excesses are not particularly important. But Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Montana had dry winters, with much less snow piled in their mountains than usual at this season of the year. This may not continue so, with good spring rains, but it presages the possibility of short lived streams and springs, and of scant summer moisture over wide areas. The detailed statistics from which these printed figures were compiled show that each month had a little precipitation, as a rule, but not enough. Nearly all states are uniformly dry, indicating perhaps less transferring of live stock within the western states. The winter has not been severe and most ranges are good, with enough moisture to date; and cattle and sheep are in comparatively good condition.

Precipitation on the Western live stock ranges during December, 1927, January and February, 1928:

	Total Amount	Excess or Deficiency
<b>Washington</b>		
Seattle	9.21	-4.68
Spokane	3.52	-2.52
Walla Walla	3.75	-2.12
<b>Oregon</b>		
Portland	9.77	-9.25
Baker City	2.47	-1.79
Roseburg	8.74	-7.13
<b>California</b>		
Red Bluff	10.73	-2.53
San Francisco	8.34	-4.03
Fresno	1.65	-2.86
Los Angeles	4.54	-4.61
<b>Nevada</b>		
Winnemucca	1.71	-1.28
Reno	0.49	-3.45
Tonopah	0.71	-0.76
<b>Arizona</b>		
Phoenix	2.63	+0.15
Flagstaff	4.95	-2.23
<b>New Mexico</b>		
Santa Fe	1.67	-0.54
Roswell	1.19	-0.29
<b>Texas</b>		
Amarillo	1.58	-0.77
Abilene	2.29	-0.88
El Paso	1.43	+0.04
<b>Montana</b>		
Helena	2.40	-0.10
Kalispell	2.98	-1.96
Havre	1.28	-0.56
Williston, N. Dak.	0.80	-0.75
<b>Idaho</b>		
Lewiston	3.80	-0.64
Pocatello	2.18	-0.33
Boise	3.39	-1.54
<b>Utah</b>		
Logan	2.08	-2.31
Salt Lake City	3.03	-1.18
Modena	1.66	-0.90
Monticello	3.37	-1.04
<b>Wyoming</b>		
Yellowstone	2.25	-3.72
Sheridan	2.78	+0.52
Lander	2.45	+0.67
Cheyenne	2.08	+0.68
Rapid City, S. Dak.	0.97	-0.41
North Platte, Neb.	0.68	-0.73
<b>Colorado</b>		
Denver	1.06	-0.45
Pueblo	1.22	-0.06
Grand Junction	1.37	-0.20
Dodge City, Kas.	1.65	-0.12

### FEEDING NATIVE AND WESTERN LAMBS

George L. Pugh is a central Ohio lamb feeder who has handled lambs for several years, all the way from the Rio Grande to the Northwest. Off and on he has had accumulations of native lambs, in fact it has just happened that each year his lambs have had a native end. No doubt this condition has arisen from Mr. Pugh's stout objection to weight in a feeder lamb.

Mr. Pugh was one of the first local men to take on Texas feeder lambs. He has always favored a range lamb, but light weights being not assured, Mr. Pugh has usually driven his home territory and bought up light-weight Merino-type lambs, or lambs with only a dash of mutton blood such as keeps them down in weight. He has been a fair and judicious tolerator of native lambs, rather than buying them in pursuance of any loyal or desired policy—as already explained.

He buys with discrimination so as to avoid flatly the lambs with a parasite history or any evident damage from stomach worms. For further assurance in this respect he always calls a veterinarian to drench the lambs before putting them on feed. This vet is one known to be good at drenching sheep, which one might say incidentally is a rather unusual assurance. So that parasites can hardly be said to figure in Mr. Pugh's criticism now to be explained.

This feeder takes exception to any and all experiment stations that pen up lambs in such small numbers as ten lambs to a pen, both native and range lambs, and then draw conclusions as to the relative excellence of native lambs as a feeder proposition handled on a commercial scale.

On the last day of January, Mr. Pugh showed the writer a double of light lambs from the Edwards Plateau of Texas from which not a lamb had been lost so far in getting them on feed and carrying around sixty days. It was when he had passed on to another barn of native lambs that he took this exception to the experiment station findings and advice based on feeding small pens of native lambs against small pens of range lambs.

Mr. Pugh says that when an experiment station chooses to pen up ten native

lambs and feed them against ten range lambs, or when they handle any number or assortment of such pens they prove nothing at all with regard to the relative value of native and range lambs for the commercial feeder who of course has to handle large numbers. In short, Mr. Pugh insists that the experiment based on a pen of ten native lambs means nothing to anybody except the man who expects to feed ten lambs.

Everywhere in the corn belt and throughout the farm states it is a recognized principle that ten ewes do better than a hundred in one flock—the "whole world" knows that. To assume off hand that this lack of fine doing on the part of the hundred is due to parasitism alone can not be admitted. The native lamb's existence has no counterpart whatever in the free and open life of the range lamb previous to his feed lot days.

As a handler of sheep in Ohio I always risked any and all criticism of neighbors or friends by leaving my sheep in the woods and fields well into the winter—just as late as feed conditions and rough weather considered together would per-

mit. I have many a time made trips to the farther end of the farm or woods to feed sheep on the snow in order to avoid bringing them to conditions of confinement sooner than I wished.

I have always considered that there is a condition of morale in a sheep that confinement and circumscribed areas and too-long-tolerated scenes flag and fag and frazzle. I early seemed to see in the tired eye of the wintered ewe and in her call from the feed yard of late spring a yearning for the wide spaces, the freedom, the recreation that should belong to the heritage of a sheep.

I believe that Mr. Pugh is exactly right when he implies that all parasitism out of the running, out of the comparison, it is not possible for the circumscribed native lamb to equal the range lamb from the wide spaces when it comes to enduring the massing of numbers—something entirely foreign and unknown to the native lamb, but "dyed-in-the-wool" and bred in the bone of the range lamb that sees more and feels more in one day than a native lamb sees and feels in his lifetime.

Delaware, O.

G. P. Williams.

## A UNIFORM BOUNTY LAW

Preliminary Work of the National Association's Committee Explained  
by Chairman F. S. Gedney

At the convention of the National Wool Growers Association held in Ogden during January of this year, the committee on predatory animals submitted a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, providing for a uniform bounty law on predatory animals in the twelve western states of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Nevada, Colorado, and Utah. That such might be accomplished, the resolution provided for the appointment by President Hagenbarth of a committee of twelve, with each of the twelve states named having one representative on it, such a committee to be permanent and serve until discharged by the National Association. Provision was also made in the resolution for the election by the members of the committee of their chairman, secretary, and such other officers as they deemed necessary.

The resolution further provided that this committee of twelve should draft a law similar to the Utah law whereby a bounty would be placed on mountain lions, wolves, bear, coyotes, lynx, and bobcats, and should cause this proposed law to be introduced in the legislatures of these twelve western states at their next sessions and use every effort to have it enacted into law. The National Association by this resolution calls upon and requests the state associations to aid and assist in the passage of the law in their respective states.

In compliance with the resolution, President Hagenbarth appointed the following committee: F. S. Gedney, Mountain Home, Idaho; Floyd Lee, Albuquerque, New Mexico; T. A. Kincaid, Ozona, Texas; A. R. Buckley, Hartsel, Colorado; Tom Drumheller, Walla Walla, Washington; K. G. Warner, Pendleton, Oregon; K. H. Hadsell, Rawlins, Wyoming; H. A.

Agee, Wells, Nevada; V. G. Stambaugh, Deer Lodge, Montana; H. W. Harvey, Heber City, Utah; Walter Priddy, Davis, California; and E. A. Sawyer, Winslow, Arizona.

After their appointment the committee met and elected F. S. Gedney of Mountain Home, Idaho, chairman and gave him authority to appoint his secretary. They then took up and discussed the Utah law and from it worked out and agreed upon a bill to be enacted by the several states as provided in the resolution.

As the bill is too long to be printed in full at this time the following review of its provisions is given:

The first section provides for the levying of a tax of five mills on the dollar on sheep and goats and two mills on the dollar on range horses and cattle. Of this fund \$5000. annually shall be used for the destruction of rabbits and rodents; fifty per cent of the remainder is to be used in co-operation with the Biological Survey in the destruction of predatory animals and the eradication of rabies and the balance in paying bounties on predatory animals. When the fund is exhausted no further warrants shall be drawn.

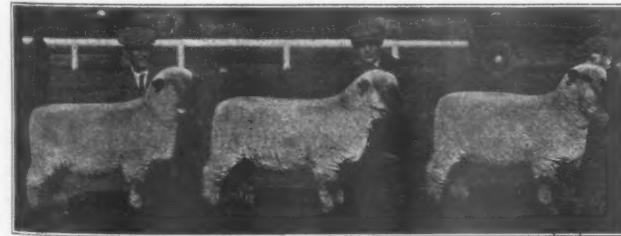
The second section reads as follows: "Animals designated—rates. Bounties shall be paid for the destruction of the following designated animals, to wit: Mountain lion or cougar \$15.00; grey, black or timber wolf \$15.00; bear \$10.00; for each coyote \$6.00; for each lynx or bobcat \$3.00."

The third section requires that any one who desires to obtain the bounty must, within sixty days from the date of killing the animal, present to the county clerk, the entire hide of the animal with at least three feet attached and in a marketable condition. He must then swear to an affidavit that he personally killed the ani-

mal in that county within sixty days and give to the county a bill of sale of the pelt. In addition to this affidavit the applicant must file with the clerk a corroborating

#### THE WINNERS IN THE HAMPSHIRE RAM LAMB CLASS AT THE 1927 INTERNATIONAL

**Top**—Placed first and also breed champion. Bred and exhibited by Thousand Springs Farm, Wendell, Idaho.  
**Center**—Placed second. Bred and exhibited by Straloch Farms, Davis, California.  
**Bottom**—Placed third. Bred and exhibited by Mt. Haggan Land and Live Stock Company, Anaconda, Montana.



First-prize pen of ewe lambs at the International. Bred and exhibited by Thousand Springs Farm, Wendell, Idaho.



First-prize pen of five ram lambs at the International. Winners of the Thousand Springs Farm Cup. Bred and exhibited by Straloch Farms, Davis, California.

affidavit sworn to by a sheep, cattle or horse raiser and taxpayer of the county, setting out that the party claiming such bounty is a reputable person and that he believes the facts set forth in the claimant's affidavit to be true. The clerk then cancels the skins in the presence of the county officers and sends them to the State Board of Agriculture which board sells them to the highest bidder and returns the money received to the bounty fund. The skins or pelts are canceled by cutting off the feet. The county clerk then sends his certificate setting out that the two affidavits have been filed and stating the amounts due the claimant, to the state auditor who draws his warrant on the treasurer.

The other provisions of the act deal with the repeal of conflicting acts, define persons, and provide the usual unconstitutional reservation.

All live-stock men realize that it is almost impossible for one state to pay a bounty when the surrounding states pay nothing and that if all states had the same law the burden would be distributed equally, thus the reason for a uniform bounty law. Also it seems that on account of the high price of furs during the cold season the present is an opportune time to get results from the paying of bounties. Many of the committee were in favor of a higher bounty on coyotes but when it was explained that when furs were worth more than the bounty, no bounty would be paid as the furs would be sold to dealers, and as they are now selling at from ten to twenty five dollars, such a law in effect keeps up the destruction during the summer months, it was concluded to adopt the price or bounty fixed in the Utah law, namely, six dollars.

The Utah law has been in effect for two years.

### A GENERAL REMINDER ON SANITATION

Sanitary or hygienic care of domestic animals is that part of veterinary science which enables us to recognize the cause of disease and teaches us to prevent disease through removal of the cause and by the building up of resistance without encroaching upon rational economy. Sheep diseases, not unlike diseases of all other animal and plant life, are steadily but surely on the increase throughout the world and such facts and conditions must be met, combated, and exterminated as effectively as possible when they appear.

In the pioneer days when wool growing was in its infancy, when the all out doors was the feeding ground, the fresh mountain streams the watering places, when the willow, the quaking-asp or the piney slope afforded protection from the noon-day sun, and the rainwashed hillside furnished the bedgrounds at night, the flocks were not brought into contact with the many and ever increasing numbers of disease-producing germs and parasitic life.

Today, however, with their movement restricted and with their introduction onto many farms and small areas, where the water supply is seldom of the best, where the housing has become a necessary factor in their care and management, where diversion of forage and browse is unprovided, in fact, where all the advantages of wild life have been denied or overlooked in the process of domestication, they are beginning a different story.

Concentration of your flocks in small feed lots and dropping corrals where space is limited invites losses which may be due to lack of exercise, to specific germs or causal agents not specific in their nature. It is when these losses occur that sanitation looms up as a problem demanding prompt action if probable losses are to be curtailed.

Darkness, moisture and disease, annually go stalking hand-in-hand through your lambing pens and sheds, sweeping not only the profits away, but often cutting very materially into the capital invested in your industry. Every year there have been reports of lamb losses throughout the State of Idaho at or shortly after lambing. Some of these losses have been very heavy. Upon investigation it was con-

clusive that most of these losses were due to unsanitary conditions, which in many instances might have been avoided.

It is not enough that we should look to the health conditions of our flocks as a protection to the industry and a profit-sharing measure to the individual grower only. We must ever bear in mind that the products of the industry are entirely for consumption by the human race in some form or other, and as many of the diseases of sheep and other live stock are communicable to man, directly or indirectly, we owe it to ourselves and to humanity to bend every effort in the building of barriers by sanitary precautions for the better protection, not only of the present generation but for generations to follow.

The wool grower, generally speaking, as well as the medical profession, is becoming more fully alive to the fact that prevention gives a much greater financial and health return, then can be hoped for from curative agents; in other words, it is a hopeless procedure to treat medically, with the purpose of eliminating disease from your flocks, and still leave untouched the environmental conditions of unsanitary housing and bad feeding.

Let us give to our flocks an abundance of exercise in the open, forced if necessary; generous feeding of good quality of legumes and grain; pure fresh water, well drained, clean, dry dropping corals; clean, dry, light, warm and well bedded lambing sheds; and careful handling.

In conclusion again allow me to remind you, that death to your ewes and their unborn lambs is lurking unseen in every atom of filth in and around your dropping corrals and lambing sheds. These yards and sheds constitute the maternity hospital for your flocks wherein lies the beginning of your success or failure as a wool grower and flockmaster. Shall we keep the hospital sanitary by cleaning and disinfecting methods and establishing a separate ward for infectious cases, or shall we just take another chance and probably complain about the consequences?

Dr. J. S. Dade,  
Inspector-in-Charge Idaho  
State Board of Sheep Com-  
missioners.

### CONDITIONS GOOD IN ARIZONA

Sheep in Arizona thus far have wintered well. Feed in the foothills and mountainous sections has been sufficient to carry the herds through in fine shape. Except in a few cases with aged ewes, it has not been necessary to supplement the natural range herbage with grains or concentrates. With early spring feed now assured from the late rains on all the primary ranges, the prospects were never better at this time for a bountiful year.

Reports are that the winter lamb crop in the Salt and Gila River valleys will score high both in numbers and in the percentage of lambs saved. Estimates are that the crop will reach upwards of 200,000 head, the largest number on record.

Winter lambing in the pastures began under very favorable auspices. Feed, however, due to heavy frosts, became scarce late in January, the alfalfa and barley pastures being grazed down to the very roots. With practically all the feed gone and none in sight elsewhere, the situation for a while looked desperate for those who had banked on a winter lamb crop. But just as everyone was at the point of running in circles, figuratively speaking, things took form rapidly. It rained and then rained again and again, thus giving assurance of good early feed on the desert, where the lambs can be finished for market at a very small expense.

Shearing in the Phoenix section is about half finished at this time, February 20. The wool clip in most cases is said to be higher and of longer staple than the average of former years. Most of the clips, that is the shorn wools, have been marketed. According to reports, the prices received have ranged from 32 to 40 cents per pound, the bulk bringing between 35 and 40 cents.

Quite a number of very good clips will not be offered for sale until the latter part of March. These are mostly from flocks that will not be shorn until after lambing. Prices higher than any yet received in the Southwest are confidently expected for these later offerings.

Phoenix, Arizona Bert Haskett

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# THE OUTLOOK FOR WOOL

**An Address Delivered by John S. Stressenger of Jeremiah Williams and Company, Boston, Before the Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association**

I have been asked to speak to you today on the wool outlook, and this I propose to do, but in dealing with this subject I am not going to deal with the outlook for the fluctuation of prices in the next few months or even in the next few years. I am going to try to paint the picture to you in a broader way and to try to visualize for you what those who have invested their capital, their brains and their industry in the business of raising sheep, may expect in the years to come.

While some wool is grown in almost every country of the world, there are five outstanding wool growing areas, and in the order of their importance they are as follows:

First: Australasia, that is to say the continent of Australia and the Islands of New Zealand and Tasmania. The 1926 wool production in this area was the greatest ever known, namely 1,064 million pounds of greasy wool or probably in the neighborhood of about 550 million pounds of scoured wool.

Second: The southern part of South America, namely Uruguay and Argentina. This area produced in 1926 about 420 million pounds of greasy wool or about 240 million pounds of scoured wool.

Third: The United States of America, which produced about 300 million pounds of greasy wool or about 125 million pounds of scoured wool, in 1926.

Fourth: Russia. This area, according to the Soviet Government statistics, produced in 1926 about 300 million pounds of wool, or about 125 million pounds of scoured wool.

Fifth: South Africa, which produced about 200 million pounds of greasy wool or about 70 million pounds of scoured wool in 1926.

These five areas therefore produced nearly 2,300 million pounds of greasy wool or about 1,100 million pounds of scoured wool, out of a total world wool

clip in 1926 of about 3,000 million pounds of greasy wool, or about 1,500 million pounds of scoured wool.

It would appear that the continent of Australia is not likely to produce as large a clip as it produced in 1926 for many years to come. The large clip in 1926 was due to the fact that for the three preceding years there had been an abundant rainfall, an almost unheard of happening in that part of the world. During the last twelve months, however, there has been insufficient rainfall over a great part of Australia. The 1927 wool clip is not only inferior in length of staple and general usefulness compared to the three preceding clips, but it is also somewhat smaller in amount; and the clip of 1928 will in all probability be smaller than the 1927 clip owing to the small lamb crop in 1927. Nevertheless, owing to three unusually moist years, the annual production of wool in the continent of Australia increased from 1,780,000 bales in 1924 to 2,700,000 bales in 1926.

The best authorities believe that under most favorable circumstances Australia could not safely carry more sheep than were sheared in 1927, without resorting to a very much more expensive system of sheep husbandry than prevails there at present. The great increase in the number of sheep in Australia has been accompanied by a drop in the price of sheep of nearly 50 per cent, and a ewe that sold for \$10.00 in Australia five years ago will not bring \$5.00 today. In passing let me call your attention to the fact that in Australia the ewes are often not bred until they are coming three years old, also that wethers are generally kept until they are five years old, and that 30 per cent of breeding ewes is a high average on any of the large ranches there. It is the exception rather than the general rule. Sheep are raised in Australia primarily for wool and not for mutton. In New Zealand the clip is about stationary. Apparently the limit of production has

been reached or nearly reached. It is a fair assumption that over a series of years, Australasia will not produce any more wool than it produced in 1926.

An interesting point to be noted here is that under her protective tariff, the commonwealth of Australia consumed in her own factories in 1926 nearly 60 million pounds of wool, and quite a few million pounds were consumed in the factories of New Zealand.

Now let us turn to South America, Uruguay, although a rather small country, containing about 118,000 square miles, or about the size of the State of Arizona, pastures about 15 million sheep and produced in 1926 about 130 million pounds of wool. Most of it is cross-bred wool off large sheep, and on general principles I should think that Uruguay today is not very far from peak production. As Uruguay today is nearly twice as near European markets as continental Australia, the refrigerator vessels can run due north through the tropics and cross the hot tropical seas very quickly, so that mutton and beef are shipped to Europe, chilled only, and do not have to be frozen; whereas, from continental Australia the route to Europe for a very long distance crosses the Tropics in a slightly north easterly or slightly north westerly direction, and it is necessary to freeze the beef and mutton in order to preserve it. Meat that is only chilled preserves an attractive appearance long after it has been unloaded from the refrigerator vessels, while the frozen meat, when thawed out, almost immediately begins to turn black and looks unpalatable (although perfectly good to eat) and has to be sold to the poorer classes of Europeans at a very much lower price than the chilled meat from South America. With Uruguay pretty full of sheep already, and a good market for mutton and lamb at good prices (which is entirely lacking in continental Australia), it does not look as if wool production in Uruguay could materially increase.

Argentina produces about 300 million pounds of greasy wool. Formerly the large wool production in Argentina came from the more northerly provinces of Buenos Aires, Concordia and Entre Ríos, which are very rich agricultural lands, capable of sustaining a very large number of sheep, but the grain farmer is gradually driving a great many sheep out of these districts; and today the production of wool in the provinces of Buenos Aires, Concordia and Entre Ríos is considerably smaller than it was. There has, however, been a large increase in the number of sheep in the southern part of Argentina, in the provinces of Rio Negro, Chubut and Santa Cruz. This increase has about equalized the decrease in the northern part of Argentina, and there is probably room for a further increase in these districts which for some years will probably continue to equalize the continuing decrease of sheep farther north. It is possible that there may be room for a net increase of another hundred million pounds in Argentina, but I should think that would be about the limit. In passing, I ought to call it to your attention that the islands off the southern coast of Argentina and Chile are producing about 30 million pounds of about the nicest crossbred wools in the world, namely the Punta Arenas wools. The raising of sheep in these islands is carried out on a very large scale by large organizations, the largest of which is known as "The Explotadora Company," which is owned partly in Chile and partly in England and produces an annual wool clip of over ten million pounds.

Continuing around the Southern Hemisphere we come to South Africa. Here there is probably room for a considerable increase in the production of wool. Very mixed live-stock farming prevails in this area. Cattle, horses, goats, ostriches and sheep are often pastured on the same ranches. I made inquiry some time ago and found that the largest single clip of wool in South Africa at that time amounted to only about one hundred thousand pounds. Considerable attention is being paid to the breeding of sheep there and the quality of the sheep and the wool is constantly improving. I feel that there is room for an increased

production of wool in South Africa, because it stands to reason that, if it continues to pay better to raise sheep than it does to raise horses, cattle, goats and ostriches, sooner or later sheep will displace at least some of the other animals. This South African country is of vast extent, and it does not require much stretch of the imagination to foresee eventually that the size of the wool clip in South Africa will be doubled.

There is undoubtedly room in Russia not only for more sheep, but for a larger wool production per sheep. Already the Soviet Government has started to import Merino sheep in large numbers, undoubtedly with a view to breeding up the native sheep so that they will shear a heavier fleece of better wool. I understand that over 20,000 Merino ewes and bucks have been brought into Russia by the Soviet Government during the past two years. These are undoubtedly to be used for stud purposes. It is entirely conceivable that in the course of time, say twenty years, not only a very great increase might take place in the sheep flocks of Russia, but also a very great improvement might take place in the character and quality of Russian wool. There are vast areas in southern Siberia well adapted to the raising of sheep, and it is conceivable that later on Russia might become an exporter, rather than an importer, of wool, as she is today.

As far as the United States of America is concerned, it looks to me as if there was room for some increase, but not a very great one, on both slopes of the Rocky Mountains. But in the open range country this increase would be limited in some sections by the amount of available summer range, and in other sections by the amount of winter range available. If there should come any large increase in the sheep in the United States it must come on the west slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and in the farming country east of the Missouri River and in Texas, which last state has been increasing its wool production by leaps and bounds in the past five years. There could be a very large increase in the farming area east of the Missouri River, and there is no doubt that the wool clip east of the Missouri River has steadily in-

creased during the past five years largely due to the high price of lambs. If the present tariff is left undisturbed for another ten years, many of the eastern farming states will be raising as much wool as they raised before the Wilson-Gorman tariff law put wool on the free list in 1894, just when wool was selling in the world's market at the lowest prices at which it had ever sold. While any tampering with the tariff now would undoubtedly have very serious effects on the sheep industry of the United States, at the same time the ruin that would be wrought would not be nearly so serious as it was in 1893, owing to the increased use of mutton and lamb and the high prices prevailing for both.

To review what I have said: No sustained increased production of wool can be expected from Australia, New Zealand or Uruguay. On the other hand, if conditions and prices continue favorable, after a few years an increased production of 100 hundred million pounds may be expected in Argentina, eventually an increase of 200 million pounds from South Africa, an increase of perhaps 100 million pounds from the United States, and after a very considerable lapse of time, a large increase from Russia. This last, however, is so far in the future that we will not figure on it at present. Perhaps all the rest of the world can be figured on for another 100 or 200 million pounds increase, provided wool and mutton prices continue favorable. We can, therefore, figure, provided conditions remain on a favorable basis, on a possible increase in the next twenty years of five to six hundred millions pounds of wool in the world's production.

How is this additional production to be taken care of without adversely affecting the price of wool? I do not think we need to worry on that score. In the first place, it would appear as if the women of the

(Continued on page 43)

## Purdue University Lamb Rations

By Claude Harper

The Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station (Lafayette, Ind.) had the champion carload of lambs out of range ewes and sired by purebred rams at the 1927 International Livestock Exposition. The carload show in the sheep division was the largest it has ever been in the history of the International. The champion carload of lambs was fed a ration developed by the Purdue Experiment Station during the past eighteen years of lamb feeding. The lambs were bred by the Swan Land and Cattle Company, Chugwater, Wyoming, and were received by the Purdue Experiment Station the latter part of August at the weight of 62.8 pounds per lamb in Chicago.

Why do we show lambs in the car-lot division of the International Livestock Exposition? To demonstrate the value of Purdue's best fattening rations when in competition with lambs fed in all the great western lamb fattening section of America. We use western bred lambs because they represent the type used in the experimental work during the past eighteen years.

After testing over forty rations three or more times, involving the use of several thousand lambs, the Experiment Station finds four outstanding facts regarding its results: (1) It is necessary to feed a legume hay for most economical results; (2) corn silage cheapens the cost of gains; (3) corn is the cheapest grain; and (4) cottonseed meal increases the rate of gain and finish.

Clover, alfalfa and soybean hays have all proved good. There is very little difference in these leguminous roughages and a feeder will make no mistake in using any one or all of them. In three trials, clover hay ranks slightly above alfalfa. Soybean hay has proven slightly superior to clover. In fact, soybean hay excelled clover hay in rate of gain, cost of gains and finish in two of the three trials.

When hay is high in price, corn silage reduces the costs. Two pounds of corn silage will replace one pound of a leguminous hay in a ration. Trials were conducted in testing the economy of adding corn silage to a ration of corn and clover hay. So far as the rate of gain was concerned, no improvement was made. There was a slight saving of corn and half the hay, where silage was fed in the ration.



The Champion Carload of Lambs from Range Ewes at the 1927 International. The lambs were bred by the Swan Land and Cattle Company of Chugwater, Wyoming, and fed by the Purdue Experiment Station

This resulted in reducing the cost of one hundred pounds gain by fifty-three cents. The only thing affected in this series of trials was the cost of gain. Hence, the cost of the hay must determine the value of the silage.

Corn has been our cheapest grain. There are other feeds that can be substituted, so far as finish and rate of gain is concerned.

In a ration of corn, and clover hay and a ration of corn, cottonseed meal and clover hay, the cost of the feed was the same, and the profits and the finish were indicated in favor of the cottonseed meal. Where silage was added to the two previously mentioned rations, the costs remained the same but the lot getting cottonseed meal sold for 15 cents per hundred above those that did not receive cottonseed meal. The profits in all tests indicate an advantage in favor of the use of cottonseed meal.

In regard to the lambs fed and exhibited this year, we might say they arrived at the Purdue Experiment Station August 26. They were given a feed of clover hay and then turned out to graze on soybean pasture. It was planned to put these lambs on feed about September 20 but due to the extremely hot weather, they were not put on a heavy grain ration until the fifth of October. On October 5, they weighed 67 pounds per lamb, which was really a satisfactory gain considering the extremely hot weather that was experienced during the month of September.

Beginning October 5, these lambs were fed a ration of corn four parts, cottonseed meal one part, clover hay and corn silage. They were fed for a period of 48 days and gained 24.6 pounds per lamb or an average daily gain of 0.51 pound per lamb.

The average daily feed during this period consisted of corn and cottonseed meal 1.56 pounds, corn silage 0.66 pound, clover hay 1.20 pounds. During the last twenty days of the feeding period, these lambs were eating two pounds of corn and cottonseed meal per lamb per day.

For 100 pounds of gain it required 305.5 pounds of corn and cottonseed meal, 129.1 pounds of corn silage, and 234 pounds of clover hay.

During the time the lambs were on this ration, they made their gains at a cost of 7 cents per pound, and the cost of putting on 100 pounds of gain during the entire time the lambs were on the farm was \$8.60. This is figuring soybean pasture at one cent per lamb per day, corn 84 cents a bushel, cottonseed meal \$50.00 a ton, corn silage \$5.00 a ton, and clover hay \$12.00 per ton.

In order to demonstrate the value of other good rations, two cars of western lambs were fattened and exhibited at the International Livestock Exposition by the Purdue Experiment Station in 1924 and 1925. In each case the lambs were awarded first place in their class. Each year a different ration was fed but in each

case the ration fed was one developed in the experimental feed lot. In 1924, we fed corn seven parts, cottonseed meal one part, corn silage and clover hay. In 1925, the ration fed consisted of corn

seven parts, cottonseed meal one part, corn silage and soybean hay. All of these rations have excelled in producing economical gains and desirable market finish in the Purdue feed lots.

## The Silver Jubilee of the New Mexico Association

The celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the New Mexico Wool Growers Association at Las Vegas on February 29 and March 1 resulted in an exceptionally fine convention—"one of the greatest ever held, both in point of attendance and interest shown." The results of the work undertaken by the association during the year 1927 gave very legitimate excuse for the members to make the event an enjoyable one. Although handicapped by the passing of their president, Mr. David Farr, early in June, the lines of endeavor that had been arranged were carried along in a very able way by Floyd W. Lee of San Mateo, as acting president. An increase of fifty per cent in membership during the year was reported. This has made the association representative of at least 75 per cent of the sheep population of the state.

The energy and ability displayed by Mr. Lee won the confidence of the sheepmen and as a result he was chosen to lead their organization for another year. E. L. Moulton of Albuquerque was made first vice-president; John Cauhope of Roswell, second vice-president; Eugenio Perez, Vaughn, third vice-president; and H. C. Abbott of Las Animas, Colorado, fourth vice-president. Miss Bertha Benson continues as secretary of the organization.

In commemoration of the silver jubilee of the association the City of Las Vegas presented it with a silver loving cup. C. W. G. Ward of Las Vegas made the presentation speech and Mr. Lee responded. Another interesting event was the presentation of a beautiful Indian blanket to President F. J. Hagenbarth, who represented the National Wool Growers Association at the convention.

The general convention was preceded by an executive committee meeting

where, among other things, the matter of giving proper support to the campaign to increase lamb consumption as conducted by the National Wool Growers Association was given general consideration. As a result of the deliberations on this question during the convention, it was agreed that one cent per head should be collected for this lamb work on all sheep shipped out of the state, which collection should be made through the Sheep Sanitary Board at the time of shipment. Predatory animal control work also came up at the executive meeting as a problem of vital concern to the sheepmen of the state and consideration was given to the idea of a uniform bounty law; the employment of a larger number of salaried hunters was also suggested. New Mexico's predatory animal trouble is augmented by the fact that Mexico, where no effort is made at any kind of animal control, bounds her on the south.

The program for the general convention included some very splendid addresses. Mr. Lee reviewed the activities of the association during the past year. He stated that the association had cooperated with the Sheep Sanitary Board in lowering their expenditures and at the same time keeping their work at such a point of efficiency that scabies had been eradicated from the state with the exception of one small district. Work with the State Tax Commission had secured the continuation of the previous year's valuation on sheep, and had put the valuation or grazing lands on a systematic basis. The lands are divided into five classes according to the number of sheep that the land will carry, and the tax valuation fixed accordingly.

Governor R. C. Dillon, in welcoming the growers, stated that \$30,000,000 was brought into the state during the past

year by the cattle and sheep business and that 1928 gave promise of being a still brighter year. In such prosperous times, he pointed out, through cooperation and organization the industry should be placed on a solid and enduring basis.

President Hagenbarth also emphasized the need for stronger organization on the part of sheepmen and the utilization of better marketing methods for their products, especially wool.

Mr. Paul G. Redington, chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, reviewed the activities of his bureau in predatory animal and rodent control and urged closer cooperation between live-stock organizations and the bureau.

A number of other talks also added to the interest and value of the convention.

A summary of the resolutions adopted follows:

Endorsing all quarantine regulations against meats or other animal products that have been established for the prevention of foot-and-mouth disease and protesting against any modification of such regulations.

Opposing any revision in present tariff law.

Recommending that federal funds allotted to Biological Survey work be increased by \$400,000 by Congress.

Urging that Packers and Stockyards Act be amended to permit collections on live-stock shipments at central markets; such collections to be paid to live-stock associations wishing them made and be used for the benefit of the live-stock industry.

Favoring the leasing of the public domain and recommending that the legislation enacted to this end be framed to protect the priority of rights by virtue of the use of such lands for grazing purposes, and that the terms of such leases shall be upon a basis which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of administration; also recommending that local associations of live-stock growers shall be entitled to representation upon a board or other agency which may be created for the carrying out of the leasing of the public domain.

Recommending the appointment of a committee to consider, with a similar committee from the state cattle and horse growers' association, proper procedure to follow in the establishment of a New Mexico Live Stock and Agricultural Loan Company.

Providing for the collection of one cent per head on all sheep shipped out of the state, said fund to be paid to the National Wool Growers Association.

Protesting against the enlargement of the Navajo Indian Reservation.

Inviting sheep owners and raisers of various Indian tribes to join the New Mexico Wool Growers Association.

Commending the Biological Survey for its predatory animal and rodent control work.

Commending the Sheep Sanitary Board for its efficient work.

Thanking Mr. F. W. Lee for services rendered the association while acting as president.

Framing a testimonial to the late David Farr.

## Lamb Demonstrations in Eastern Cities

The work of enlarging the outlet for lamb as initiated by the National Wool Growers Association last fall under the supervision of the National Live Stock and Meat Board is going on with continued effective results. The condition of the lamb market early in January brought the lamb feeders of Nebraska and Colorado to a realization of the need of such effort and on January 17 a meeting was held at Greeley, Colorado, at which there was a large attendance of feeders from that section and also from the feeding districts of Nebraska, to plan for assisting in the campaign to increase the consumption of lamb.

It was agreed at that time that the feeders would raise a fund equal to that spent by the National Wool Growers Association in the preliminary campaign of last fall, or \$5,000. Such action by the feeders made it possible for the lamb campaign to be continued without the break that would have occurred had the National Wool Growers Association been the only source of revenue, for its funds were exhausted.

The report of the lamb demonstrations and other activities conducted during February in connection with the campaign as submitted by the National Live Stock and Meat Board follows:

### Progress During February

The special lamb consumption cam-

paign is rapidly gaining in momentum. With the constant broadening of activities, the constructive influence of the program is reaching into more and more communities in all sections of the country. A report of the lamb demonstration work for the month of February is evidence of

### Lamb Program Wins Favor at Iowa State College

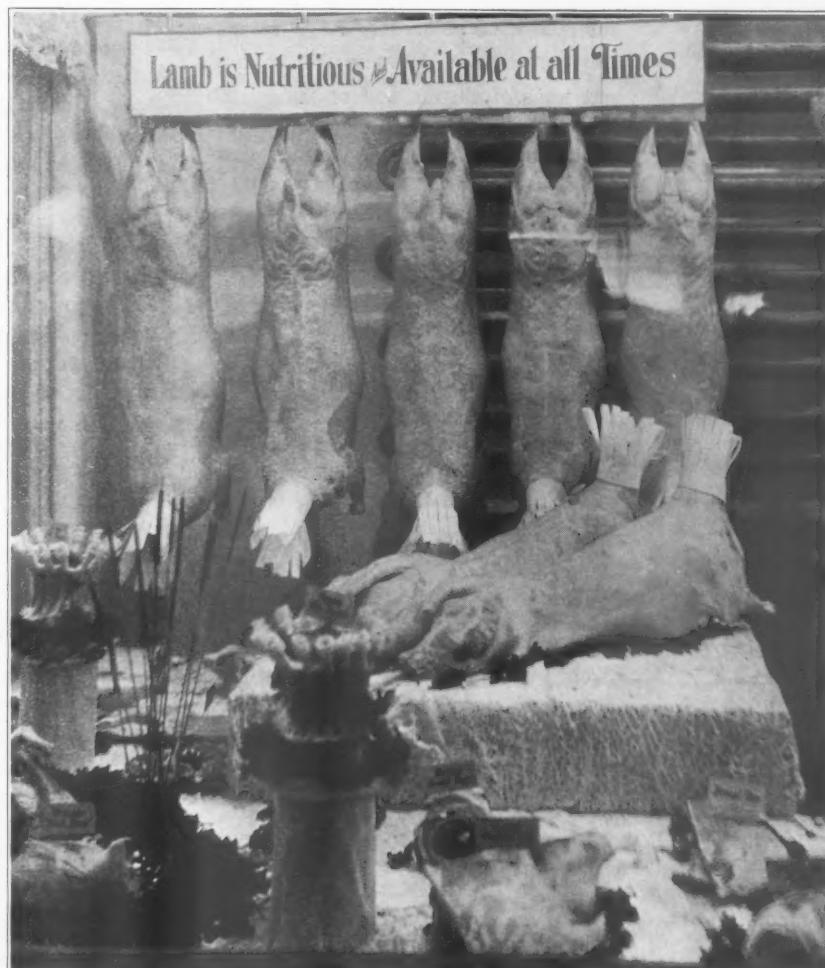
A lamb demonstration was given before the Iowa Live Stock Association during the Home Week program of the Iowa State College at Ames on February 1. A great deal of advance publicity was given this meeting and, in addition to the association members, retailers attended from various surrounding cities. Everyone seemed very much enthused about the lamb campaign and many questions were asked about the lamb cuts which were demonstrated to them. The retailers were especially interested in obtaining literature and knowing just how each cut was made.

As a direct result of this demonstration, the National Live Stock and Meat Board received a letter from one of the leading retailers in Des Moines, Ia., stating that he had put lamb displays in all his retail market windows and that the interest these displays created blocked sidewalk traffic in front of his stores.

Iowa State College offers a very thorough and comprehensive meats course.

The students were

enthusiastic about following up the lamb demonstration work within their state. The college extended an invitation to the Board's representative to return and assist in their research work on lamb. Cooperation of the college in the lamb campaign movement was assured.



This attractive lamb display, sponsored by the National Wool Growers Association, formed a part of the Quality in Meats exhibit of the National Live Stock and Meat Board at the American Royal Live Stock Show at Kansas City last November. Lamb caul fat was used as a blanket upon which the cuts were arranged. Mock ducks were fashioned from the shoulder of lamb and placed on a mirror so as to give the effect of ducks in a pond. Other attractive cuts were built around the duck pond, which contained cattails, river ferns and a bed of parsley to give the proper effect. Displays similar to this are important adjuncts to the work of putting the lamb campaign over in the middle western and eastern cities.

the excellent results being attained.

Exceptionally fine cooperation has been given by the packers and retailers in the various cities in which the work has been presented, and their continued support is assured for the program outlined for future months.

### Demonstrate Lamb for Nebraska Sheep Feeders

The Nebraska Sheep Feeders Association held a meeting at Grand Island, Nebraska, on February 6, and a lamb cutting demonstration was given immediately following the banquet. Local packing house men and practically all the leading local retailers were also in attendance and everyone seemed pleased with what they had learned about the delicate quality of lamb. The retailers were especially interested in seeing the actual cuts produced. The packers and retailers held a conference following the cutting demonstration and began to work out a plan in the interests of giving more prominence to lamb. Lamb displays using window streamers provided for the occasion were in evidence throughout the city. Lamb recipe books were distributed from every retail market.

### Good Results of Lamb Work Found in Omaha

Following the Grand Island meeting the leading retailers and packers in Omaha were called upon as a follow-up of the lamb campaign conducted in that city last fall. One packer produced his volume sheet and showed where a 70 per cent increase in their lamb sales had been realized during and since the lamb campaign.

### Lamb Talk Broadcast on Radio

On Wednesday, February 29, a ten-minute lamb talk was broadcast from the Sears Roebuck station, WLS, in the Hotel Sherman, Chicago. WLS is one of the most powerful Chicago stations and as this talk was given at a popular hour, a large audience was assured. The subject of this talk was "The Production and Distribution of Lamb." This was intended to give the 'listeners in' a better understanding of the lamb situation from production to consumption. Special emphasis was placed on the fact that lamb is an all-year-around meat; also the delicate quality and the economy in the selection of the forequarter cuts.

A large amount of publicity for lamb has also been obtained through the use of articles sent out by the National Live Stock and Meat Board to 6,200 newspapers and to all the hotel and restaurant magazines of the country.

### Work Presented in Indiana and Ohio Cities

During the week ending February 25 the activities in the lamb consumption campaign reached into the cities of Indianapolis, Ind., Columbus, Ohio, and Cincinnati, Ohio. Lamb cutting demonstrations were given before enthusiastic meetings of retailers, packers and producers at these points. In every instance deep interest was shown in the practical new ways of cutting and utilizing lamb to better advantage, as brought out by the demonstrations. Retailers seemed thoroughly to appreciate the great value of the new methods and expressed their intention of making use of them in their shops.

Indianapolis was the first city on the week's schedule. The demonstration had been well advertised and the trade turned out in force.

In Columbus the demonstration was given before a joint meeting of the Ohio Live Stock Association and the Ohio Wool Growers Association, the attendance at this session exceeding 450. A meeting also was held for the retailers and packers of Columbus with very gratifying results.

Practically all of the leading retailers in the Cincinnati trade area were reached through demonstrations held in that city. A total of four meetings was held for both packers and retailers. The local men were so well pleased with the lamb work that they favored its continuation in that city.

### March Schedule Covers Six Cities in East

An intensive program of lamb demonstrations has been definitely scheduled for the immediate future in a number of cities. The itinerary for March includes Cleveland, Ohio, on March 6, 7, and 8; Pittsburgh, Pa., on March 9, 10, 12 and 13; Philadelphia, Pa., on March 14, 15, 16, 17 and 21; New York and Brooklyn, N. Y., on March 19, 20, 22, and 24; and Boston, Mass., March 26 to 31 inclusive.

Arrangements are being handled locally through the retailers' associations. The packers are also arranging for demonstrations before salesmen, branch house managers, etc.

### IDAHO ASSOCIATION CHANGES OFFICIAL RESIDENCE

On March 1 the Idaho Wool Growers Association moved its offices from Twin Falls to Burley, Idaho, the place of residence of R. C. Rich, the new president of the organization. This is in line with the custom followed by the association of having its offices located where the president can give personal direction to its affairs.

It has also been announced that the duties of secretary would be assumed by M. C. Claar, who has been assistant under Mr. Donald McLean during the past year. Mr. McLean severed his connection with the association on March 1.

The directors selected for the Idaho Association to serve during the coming year include T. C. Bacon of Twin Falls, who will represent the south-central district; J. L. Driscoll of Boise for the northwestern section; Eph Ricks of Sugar City for the northern section; and H. L. Finch of Soda Springs for the southeastern district.

### CALIFORNIA RAMBOUILLET ASSOCIATION MEETS

On February 1 a meeting was held of the California Rambouillet Breeders' Association at the University Farm, Davis, California. The main order of business was the Rambouillet lamb club feature at the California State Fair. It was voted to foster this type of promotion work again, and the following classes for boys and girls under eighteen years of age exhibiting Rambouillet lambs were adopted: Best ram lamb, best yearling ewe, best ewe lamb, best wether lamb, and best Rambouillet fleece. A total of \$100.00 was appropriated, which sum is to be equaled by the American Rambouillet Breeders' Association, making a total of \$200 in prizes for these classes.

President Frank Bullard of the American Rambouillet Breeders' Association made a report of the annual meeting and show at Chicago.

The spring ram sale to be held under the auspices of the California Wool Growers Association was discussed. It was the consensus of opinion that a few good yearling ewes should be offered, in addition to Rambouillet rams, and several breeders are planning to consign five or ten ewes. Some of the breeders reported on their past sales. R. F. M.

## Seeding Range Lands by Airplane

By W. L. TEUTSCH

New uses are being found for the airplane almost every day. It has been used in dusting for control of fruit and other crop pests, as a patrol to keep ducks off the rice fields of California, in forest fire patrol, mail and passenger transportation, and in war. It remained, however, for Dr. Earl G. Low and his associates in the sheep business, J. A. Berg and Hal Baxter, all of Coquille, Coos County, Oregon, to use the airplane in broadcasting grass seed on their range lands. As a result, it is believed Coos County sheepmen hold the world's speed record for broadcasting grass seed. With the aid of an airplane in slightly more than five hours' flying time, they seeded 1000 acres of logged-off land last fall at one-third the cost of hand seeding and with only half the amount of seed it is customary to use.

Hearing of this achievement on a recent visit to Coos County, I located Dr. Low in his office at Coquille and learned first hand just how he conceived the idea and carried it through to a practical conclusion, seen now in an excellent stand of grass on a 1000-acre tract.

"Aviation has been my hobby," Dr. Low told me, "and I have studied its progress for a number of years. I read, of course, of the extensive use of the airplane in dusting for insect control. The idea occurred to me that it might prove equally successful in broadcasting seeds on large tracts. This fall our company, known as the Coquille Valley Sheep and Wool Company, decided to burn and seed 1000 acres of our logged-off land. We called in one of the most experienced men in the county in this line and got him to go over our tract and give us a bid on the labor cost of hand seeding. He came back and said it would cost between \$1200 and \$1500. Immediately we decided to investigate the possibility of using an airplane.

"Ten miles away at Myrtle Point, fortunately for us, there was a young commercial flyer by the name of Harold Adams. We explained the proposition to him and he was interested. With him I flew over the tract several times locat-

ing the boundaries and studying the lay of the land. We decided it was feasible. Of course, the veteran seeders told us we were crazy, as did most of the other experienced and inexperienced folks in the community.

"We began to perfect our plans and, being pioneers in the business, there was no precedent by which to go. We first thought of constructing a hopper on one of the wings, but gave that up because it would throw the plane off balance. Our

This we did and our calculations were correct.

"We marked the corners of the thousand-acre tract, which laid in an L shape, plainly with large white flags. We used the same experienced seeder of logged-off land who had bid on hand seeding the tract as our ground observer because he recognized a good job of seeding when he saw it, and vice versa. In order to mark out the swaths so as to eliminate overlapping we placed white fly paper at 90



The front cockpit of the machine was used as a hopper. It was lined with canvas and fitted with a false sloping bottom of galvanized iron which led to a spout five inches in diameter.

next idea was the one which we perfected. We used the front cockpit as a hopper lining it with canvas and putting in it a false sloping bottom of galvanized iron which led to a spout five inches in diameter. In this spout we installed a valve which could be controlled by the pilot in the rear cockpit. The spout or mouth of the hopper extended through the bottom of the fuselage to permit the seed spilling freely into the air. The hopper was large enough to hold 300 pounds of seed.

"Knowing the velocity of the plane, which was 70 miles per hour, and estimating that we could cover a swath 90 feet wide by weighing the amount of seed which ran out of the spout in a given time, we were able to calibrate the valve opening before we ever took to the air.

foot intervals across the center of the tract. This guided the pilot. At first we flew at an elevation of 300 feet, but our ground observer advised we were only covering a swath 60 feet wide. We raised to an elevation of 500 feet and the propeller wash then gave a nice spread of seed over the full 90 feet at the rate we were dropping seed.

"We used orchard grass and English rye grass, white and alsike clover. Because of the difference in the weight of seed, we went over the tract twice filling the hopper with orchard grass and rye grass the first time over and followed it with a mixture of alsike and white clover. We used a total of 4500 pounds of seed which cost us around a thousand dollars. Our total seeding cost with the airplane was \$420 while hand seeding would have cost

around \$1500, making a net saving of \$1080.

"The veteran seeder of logged-off lands, our ground observer, skeptical at first, with each hopper load broadcast became more sold on the method. Because of the steep nature of a portion of the tract, by the time we finished the job he concluded that it was the only way we could have obtained a satisfactory distribution. He pronounced the entire job a good one and the stand of grass proves it. I feel sure that as a pilot gained experience this method could be perfected to a point where there would be no question about even distribution. We were fortunate in having a total absence of wind for our experiment, but by flying into the wind or with it we believe even a wind would not cause difficulty."

In western Oregon and Washington between the Cascade Range and the Pacific Ocean, there are millions of acres of logged-off lands similar to that which these Coos County people seeded to grass with an airplane. In Coos County alone, there are 262,000 acres of logged-off land, little of which is now utilized, growing up to brush which later forms the great fire hazard in reforestation. Many have visioned in this great area the development of an extensive sheep business as a means of utilizing logged-off lands. Grass grows the year round and it is seldom necessary to do winter feeding. Dr. Low and his associates in the sheep business believe that sheep can be run more cheaply under such conditions than they can in the intermountain territory where winter feeding is necessary. They have the courage of their convictions in that they are now running 800 sheep on these logged-off lands and will increase this number by 1000 next year when the thousand acres recently seeded have a good stand of grass. It is a known fact that grass on some of these lands grows so luxuriantly that they will carry a steer to the acre or around five sheep.

Perhaps the greatest handicap of the district in the development of a great sheep industry is the absence of sheepmen who have had experience in large sheep operations. The difference in climatic conditions and the nature of the country would, of necessity, make man-

aging problems different from those which prevail in the intermountain country and in eastern Oregon and Washington. However, it is certain that an extensive operator in eastern Oregon could contribute much to the development of a successful sheep industry on the logged-off lands in the coast area.

It is the opinion of many that the millions of acres now going unutilized can for a period of six to eight years be grazed to sheep and then eventually permitted to reforest itself. Such a practice will de-

crease the fire hazard, provide income from lands which are now idle, and hasten reforestation.

It is believed that the airplane as a cheap and practical means of seeding these logged-off lands will help much toward the establishment of a sheep industry on the western coast. To Dr. Low and his associates in the sheep business must go the credit for originating and putting into effect this idea which many pronounced impractical.

## The Cattlemen's Convention

The thirty-first annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association took place at El Paso, Texas, January 25-27, 1928. According to all reports, it was a very splendid affair, the genial southern city furnishing just the proper setting for a gathering of men who had weathered through some distressing times and were relaxing under a promise of fair days ahead.

There was very little change in the officials of the association. L. C. Brite of Marfa, Texas, continues as president, and T. W. Tomlinson and S. H. Cowan as secretary and attorney, respectfully. Henry G. Boice of Phoenix, Arizona, succeeds William Pollman of Oregon as first vice-president. The second-vice-presidents remain as in 1927 with the addition of Mr. Pollman's name to the list.

The future policies and activities of the association outlined by the convention are embodied in the resolutions, some of which are given in full and the others summarized.

### RESOLUTIONS Public Domain

Whereas, The regulation of the unappropriated public domain is becoming more and more imperative, in the interest of both the live-stock men and the general public; and

Whereas, This association has for many years advocated the leasing of the remaining unappropriated areas of the public domain by the federal government; therefore be it

Resolved, That the American National Live Stock Association in convention assembled at El Paso, Texas, January 25-27, 1928, again indorse the position taken heretofore, and ask that Congress immediately enact a law providing for the leasing of the unappropriated public domain by the proper federal agency; such law to incorporate the following principles: proper recognition of the rights and equities of the stockmen now using the unappropriated

areas; long-term leases; fees based on cost of administration, plus a reasonable amount for the state in which the area lies; proper provisions for the establishment of grazing districts by local option.

### Haugen Amendment to Packers and Stockyards Act

Whereas, We are convinced that it will be for the benefit of the live-stock industry to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act as proposed in H. R. Bill No. 490, introduced by Mr. Haugen; therefore be it

Resolved, That we urge the passage of said bill, with the recommendation that it be altered in the following particulars:

- (a) That the time for which the Secretary of Agriculture may suspend the operation of a schedule advancing commission or stockyard charges be increased from thirty to ninety days, and that, if a hearing, as provided in said bill, cannot be had within that time, the secretary be authorized to grant an additional ninety days;
- (b) That it shall be unlawful and in violation of said Act for any firm, agent, or person handling or selling live stock on a commission basis to finance, either directly or indirectly, the shipment of any live stock to any market, or to speculate in live stock, or to participate in any profit resulting from speculation in live stock, shipped to market.

### Reduction of Freight Rates on Agricultural Products

Whereas, Agriculture and stock-raising are inseparably interwoven, the prosperity of these essential industries underlying the prosperity of the great West, which produces the surplus to feed the nation; and

Whereas, Freight rates on the products of agriculture, including live stock, have been unduly burdensome since the World War; and

Whereas, Congress in the Hoch-Smith Resolution directed the Interstate Commerce Commission promptly to effect such changes in these freight rates as to reduce this burden; and

Whereas, Three years have now elapsed, and investigations are still going on as to what products are suffering from the postwar depression, as to the cost of service, etc., without the end being yet in sight; therefore be it

Resolved, That we recommend the passage by Congress of a law declaring it to be the national policy of railroad-rate regulations to im-

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pose the lowest possible freight rates on the products of the ranch and farm, both in the form of raw material and as commodities in the first stage of processing permissible under constitutional restrictions; and be it further

Resolved, That the Interstate Commerce Commission be required to make such rates with all possible speed, without requiring producers and shippers to furnish the evidence as to what the rates ought to be.

**Duty on Hides**

Whereas, The policy of this country and of the present administration is one of protection to native industries; and

Whereas, Alone among important raw materials, cattle hides remain on the free list; and

Whereas, This association has repeatedly, but without success, appealed to Congress to place hides on a parity with other raw materials by imposing a duty on their importation; therefore be it

Resolved, That we again demand a revision of the existing tariff which will afford due protection to the grower of cattle hides.

**Government Grading and Stamping of Beef**

Resolved, That this association express its sincere appreciation and hearty approval of the services rendered to the beef-cattle producers by the Department of Agriculture, the Better Beef Association, the National Live Stock Meat Board, and the Institute of American Meat Packers for their efforts in establishing the system of grading and marking of beef; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge that they continue their activities, that the service of grading and marking of beef be extended to additional markets, and that such appropriation as has been recommended by the Secretary of Agriculture be made by Congress for carrying on such work.

**Increase of Revenues of National Live Stock and Meat Board**

Resolved, That, for the purpose of increasing the usefulness and of rendering still more effective the manifold services of the National Live Stock and Meat Board in spreading the meat gospel and counter-acting the propaganda of competing interests, we favor an increase in the revenues of that body by advancing the present collection of ten cents on every car of live stock shipped to market to twenty cents per car, half of which amount is to be contributed by the seller and half by the buyer, to be collected in the same manner as heretofore; provided, that this advance is approved by the other groups represented on the Board.

**Increased Appropriations for Improvements on National Forests**

Whereas, There is now being placed in effect increased grazing fees for the uses of the national forests; and

Whereas, The ranges on the national forests are in urgent need of improvement, such as eradication of poisonous weeds, reseeding of grasses, development of water, building of fences and rails, and other developments necessary to the handling of cattle on the forest reserve ranges; and

Whereas, At the present time only 10 per cent of the grazing fees are reappropriated for the Forest Service to use in these ways; and

Whereas, In many instances a large part of this 10 per cent is used in developments not beneficial to the live stock industry; therefore be it

Resolved, That the American National Live Stock Association present to Congress the urgent need for these improvements and ask that materially increased appropriations be made for the purpose above set forth.

**Summary of Other Resolutions**

Favoring legislation to permit purchase of isolated government lands fit only for grazing, in areas up to 640 acres, at minimum price of 50 cents an acre;

Requesting repeal or section 15-a of Act to Regulate Commerce, restoring rights of shippers and authority of state rate-making commissions;

Opposing Capper amendment to Packers and Stockyards Act (S. Bill No. 2506) as unnecessary restricting right to sell live stock;

Requesting that American army and navy be at all times supplied with home-grown beef;

Protesting against passage by Congress of legislation for putting Mexican labor on quota basis;

Indorsing Great Lakes-Atlantic Ocean waterway project;

Urging material increase in appropriation to Biological Survey for eradication of predatory animals and forage-destroying rodents;

Asking that work of Bureau of Entomology

in reducing losses to live-stock industry from insect pests be vigorously prosecuted, and that adequate funds be granted by Congress:

Requesting Congress to vote sufficient money for eradication of cattle tick;

Favoring concerted effort for control of hemorrhagic septicemia;

Advocating establishment of laboratory for study of loco weed, with a view to its complete eradication;

Supporting Secretary Jardine's request for appropriation making possible promotions in federal veterinary service;

Impressing on stockyard companies at principal markets importance of setting aside adequate buildings for proper conduct of auction sales;

Approving principles involved in California plan for co-operative marketing;

Authorizing president of association to appoint committee to confer with officials of National Dairy Council on problems of mutual interests;

Condemning legislation aimed at restricting sale of oleomargarine;

Favoring an advance in the tariff on beef products.

## Sheep Affairs in Australia and New Zealand

By A. C. Mills

Melbourne, January 15, 1928

The rain storms in Queensland, referred to in my last letter, petered out towards the end of December, but not before they had greatly benefited a considerable area of the previously dry central and west sections of that state. So heavy were the falls in parts of the central district that floods occurred, causing rivers that have been empty for two years or more to run strong streams miles wide. The losses of sheep and cattle were not heavy, but that was chiefly because there were not the stock in the country to lose, drought having already taken its toll.

Unfortunately there are still parts of west Queensland that have not received relief, and even those districts that had a good soaking need more before it can be said that the season is safe. Broadly speaking, Queensland depends on summer monsoonal rains to make feed. These are looked for between December and April, and though they started all right there has lately been a suspicious break in the sequence of the storms. May it be only temporary, for an absence of adequate rains in the hot January and February would largely undo the good derived from the December falls, even in the flooded country.

In view of the uncertainty of the season graziers are showing no particular haste to stock up the drought-denuded country. Another factor that is making them cautious is the relatively high prices asked for young sheep of either sex by those who possess a surplus. There is also the difficulty of arranging finance. Many, probably the majority of at least the smaller holders, in the area affected by the drought, have lost their cash as well as their sheep, and money is tight just now. For these reasons it seems likely that the building up of flocks in Queensland may be a rather slow, but sound process.

The 1927-28 Australian lamb export season, which is rapidly drawing to a close, has not been particularly satisfactory to producer or shipper. Owing to the hard winter and spring in the southern states the quality of the bulk of the supply left much to be desired, and the overseas market for the products, except pelts, has been consistently weak. Shipments to Great Britain for the six months ended December 31 stood at approximately 800,000 carcasses, compared with 1,390,000 carcasses for the corresponding period of 1926. Packers have lately been buying a few prime lambs at up to 12 cents per pound, bare meat, and paying as low

as 8 cents for third grades. The average buying rate has lately been about 10 cents a pound.

Exports of frozen mutton have also been smaller than usual, the figures for the second six months of 1927 being 200,000 carcasses, compared with 328,000 for the same period in 1926. The reason for the falling off here was not so much climatic as veterinary. A fair percentage of sheep of Australia, as is the case in most other countries, are affected with the caseous lymphadenitis gland. This is perfectly harmless to human consumption, but for some reason best known to themselves the British Health Authorities have lately seen fit to prohibit the importation into Great Britain of any carcasses carrying infected glands, or from which the glands have been removed. The enforcement of the regulation necessarily cramps the operations of packers. As it is impossible to tell which sheep are infected until postmortem examination can be made, they are always faced with the possibility of large export rejections. The carcasses that are rejected are usually turned over to the local market, but the absorbing power of that is somewhat limited, hence a restriction in buying. Had there been no embargo on imports into Great Britain, it is safe to say that considerably over half a million carcasses would have been shipped in the last six months.

The wool market continues on a satisfactory basis. It is true values at the southern Australian selling centers showed an easier tendency during the closing sales of 1927, but that was largely due to a dislocation in the roster owing to a waterside strike. This caused extra heavy offerings in the last week before the holidays, and buyers were able to bring prices down a little. It is significant that in Sydney and Brisbane, where the sales were not interrupted, a firm market has been maintained right through. The strike was also responsible for a drop in New Zealand, a drop that has since been fully recovered.

Auctions held to date since the beginning of the new year have been marked by considerable animation. Sydney brokers report that the best wools, both Merino and comeback, are fully 5 per

cent dearer than in the previous month, have in fact touched the highest point of the season. Adelaide selling agents, on the other hand, are not so optimistic, though they also describe the demand as being exceptionally keen and prices firm for all descriptions except super wools. These apparently have not been realizing so much in Adelaide as at mid-December, but it will be easier to gauge their true value next week, when the Melbourne sales reopen.

Up to 61½ cents per pound has lately been realized for Riverina grown Merino fleece wool in Sydney, and 56 cents for crossbreds. The latter is the record for crossbreds in Sydney this season. The average of the prices received for all greasy wools in Australia between July 1st and December 31 was 36.76 cents a pound, compared with 36.06 cents at November 30.

The total receipts into brokers' stores at December 31 for the current season stood at 2,130,838 bales, of which 1,241,233 were sold by auction or private treaty, and 15,741 shipped unsold, leaving 873,864 to be carried into 1928. It is worth noting that receipts to December 31, 1926, were 2,211,413 bales, being 80,575 in excess of this season's total. The excess, however, is much greater than the bale figures indicate, for the average weight per bale sold in the second six months of 1926 was 322.01 pounds, and in 1927 only 306.24 pounds.

Most of the meat packing plants in the South Island of New Zealand have commenced killing since last writing, but the number of lambs available to date has not been large, owing to broken and cold weather. The opening price on farms in Canterbury is 19½ cents per pound, dressed weight, for lambs not exceeding 36 pounds, but when in competition with local butchers in the sale yards packers have been paying up to 20 cents a pound. In Otago and Southland 18½ cents is offered for lambs up to 36 pounds, and less for heavier weights. Last season's opening price was 17 cents for light weights in Canterbury.

Seasonal conditions in the North Island are favorable on the whole. Packers there are paying up to 18 cents for the best grades of light freezers.

## SHEEP POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES

A total of 44,545,000 sheep and lambs is estimated by the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture to have been on farms and ranges of the United States on January 1, 1928. This number represents an increase of 6.5 per cent over the sheep population of the country on January 1 of the preceding year.

The following table gives the comparative figures for both sheep and cattle during the past three years:

	Sheep and Lambs	Per Cent of Total Preceding Year
Jan. 1, 1926	39,730,000	104.2
Jan. 1, 1927	41,846,000	105.3
Jan. 1, 1928	44,545,000	106.5
	Cattle and Calves	
Jan. 1, 1926	59,122,000	95.4
Jan. 1, 1927	56,872,000	96.2
Jan. 1, 1928	55,696,000	97.9

The distribution of the sheep and lambs is given as follows:

In the North Atlantic States, which include Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania—1,118,000, which represents an increase of 5.7 over the 1927 figure, 1,058,000.

In the North Central States, including Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas—10,787,000, an increase of 3.3 per cent over the previous year's total, 10,441,000.

In the South Atlantic States, which embrace Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida—1,305,000, which represents an increase of 10.2 per cent over 1,184,000, the total for 1927.

In the South Central States, which include Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas—6,269,000, showing an increase of 11.8 per cent over 5,605,000, the total for January 1, 1927.

In the Far Western States, in which Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon and California are grouped—25,066,000 as against 23,558,000 for 1927, or an increase of 6.4 per cent.

The totals for the individual western states, including Texas, follow:

	Total Jan. 1, 1927	Total Jan. 1, 1928	Incr. %
Arizona	1,230,000	1,267,000	3
California	3,392,000	3,528,000	4
Colorado	1,938,000	2,746,000	42
Idaho	1,974,000	2,073,000	5
Montana	3,053,000	3,206,000	5
Nevada	1,198,000	1,234,000	3
New Mexico	2,250,000	2,362,000	5
Oregon	2,247,000	2,247,000	0
Texas	4,065,000	4,593,000	13
Utah	2,650,000	2,730,000	3
Washington	526,000	542,000	3
Wyoming	3,100,000	3,131,000	1

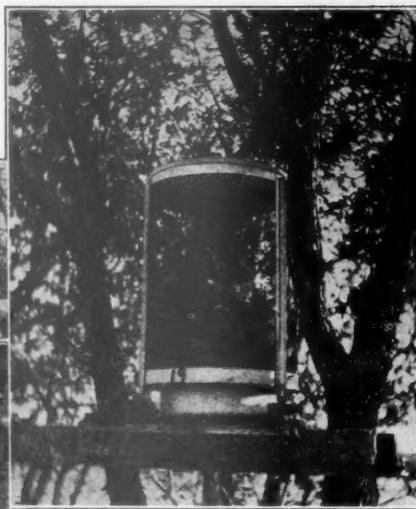
## Fly Trapping Experiments In West Texas



**Below—Five hundred seven gallons of flies—the catch of 280 traps.**

**Left—An excellent location for a trap—in a tree near a water hole.**

**Right—A close-up of a government trap in operation on a Texas ranch.**



In six weeks, 280 traps in the fly trapping zone of Menard County, Texas, caught 507 gallons of flies, or measuring 8000 to the quart, a total of 16,224,000 flies. In each of these flies, both wool maggot and screwworm fly, there was trouble for the sheepmen. The trapping was done in a district in which the ranchmen are cooperating in a test to see just what the effect of such a campaign would be on losses through worms—always a very bad problem. O. G. Babcock of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology, working in cooperation with the Texas State Experiment Station near Sonora, measured the flies and superintended the work, with F. C. Bishopp of the same bureau and W. R. Nisbet, the county agent, assisting.

The trapping began in Menard County in 1925; last year 300 sections of Sutton County were included in the trapping zone; and another district is to be created this year. Crockett County is also planning a campaign. So far, however, there has been no countywide zone. Many ranchmen have suggested that the plan should be made statewide in an effort to eradicate the flies. Mr. Babcock declares, however, that the fly cannot be eradicated, for while it does not appear in the Texas country in the winter months, it does exist in the most southern part of the state and ranges from the Canadian line

to the Gulf Coast. He does believe, however, that the trapping pays big dividends.

J. M. Treadwell, a representative ranchman of Menard, believes the stock in the trapping zone of Menard County showed 80 per cent fewer cases of worms. G. W. Stephenson, Roy Aldwell, and Mans Hoggett of Sonora are also believers in the efficiency of fly trapping, though they give no estimate in percentages. Figures on the exact percentage of difference in worm cases in areas where no fly trapping is carried on and in the regions where such is done will be available in a few months when the government issues a bulletin on the subject.

In addition to the decrease in worm trouble and the consequent saving, there must also be considered the fact that when a fly hits a sheep after shearing time and lands on a cut place, or indeed strikes a break in the skin at any time, that sheep must be doctored and the elimination of the cost of this doctoring is a big item.

Of course, the expense of trapping is a factor that cannot be ignored. A trap averages in cost from \$3 to \$5 and has a life of from one month to several years depending on the care given it and its construction. Trappers receive from fifty to seventy-five cents a trap. The bait used is taruna goats, or cull sheep and

goats, which are purchased just at or after shearing time and placed by the trapper in the center of his district. The trapper lives nearby and kills his bait fresh every morning. Formerly he used burro, but this animal is so large that the meat spoiled often before he could get rid of it as bait, thus making it a very unpleasant job. Packing houses have been endeavoring to put out a dependable slime bait, but so far their efforts have been fruitless. The entire sheep carcass, except the tail and feet are used. The traps can be cared for only every ten to sixteen days, depending upon the depth of the bait pan.

One to three traps to a section are used. They are placed in trees in the forested regions, but in the open ranches a location near a water hole is ideal. For protection and convenience the traps are set from three to four feet above the ground. The trap is 24 inches high without the legs and 18 inches in diameter. The cone has a diameter of 18 inches, is 22 inches high, and has an opening of from one to one and one-half inches. The bait pan is four inches high with a diameter of 14 inches, and the legs are four inches high. Three pounds of meat is used in the bait pan at one time, with some water added. This bait will last from ten to twenty days.

As mentioned above, the bulletin to

be issued by the government covering this experiment in fly trapping will contain in more detail what has been accomplished by the effort and also what may be expected to result from enlarging the fly trapping area.

San Angelo, Texas . . . Sam Ashburn

**LETTER FROM A SHEPHERD  
TO HIS PAL**

Tomboy Sanitarium

March, 1928

Dear Ern:

I got your letter where you inquire about that nurse and did I finally get her finger tended to where she had run that sliver. You sure pay a lot of attention to the little things, Ern, and that way you are liable to overlook the big details.

But I was telling you about that lawsuit we got into. Them goats of ours went straight from that ranch where they'd tore down the wife's wash over to Riley Adams' place, and there they sure spread out their talents for doing mischief. Riley is a college man, trained in chemistry and other mystics, and plumb full of erudite education. He took up farming to get a chance at some solitude, and he and a partner of his have been working on a formula for making a liquor that leaves no taint on a person's breath. It's a big thing, Ern, when you once grasp the idea and think of the world's drinking population. They was figuring on getting patents in all foreign countries, and had their sights raised up into the millions. They'd worked out their formula, which was considerably complicated, and were right on the verge of starting negotiations with a European syndicate to advance 'em a million or so for putting up a plant, when our goats rambled right into their classic existence.

Riley and his partner had gone out duck hunting, so there was nobody home when our goats landed on their ranch. There's a sod cabin on the place, a four or five-room layout, with a lean-to on the back. Well, some way them goats, about a dozen of them, got up on the lean-to, and from there it was only a couple of jumps over onto the sod roof. There was a fringe of sun-bleached grass on that roof, which those goats would have starved to death before they would have

touched it if it had growed out in the pasture, but there on that roof it was fancy eating and they tore it out by the roots. They must have got into some disagreement about it, and there probably was a fight. The result was that one corner of the roof caved in and dropped half a dozen goats down into Riley's bedchamber.

A goat hasn't got the first instincts about privacy, Ern, so when they recovered from their surprise and got down off the bed and shook the dirt off their backs, they proceeded to explore Riley's place of abode.

First thing they ran into was another flock of goats in the back of a old French mirror, and they went into battle. They walked through the frame to see where that outfit had gone to, and then strolled over into the kitchen. There they saw the same goats sort of indistinctly in the glass doors of a cupboard, and took in after 'em. When the last sign of the goats had dissapeared the bunch strolled into Riley's laboratory. He'd left the door ajar, so that was easy pickings.

Everything would've been lovely if they'd only stopped at this point. A few hundred dollars would've fixed things up in fine shape; but now is when the damage realy started. There was a complete assortment of glass tubes with ends on 'em like a toy balloon. Maybe they was still looking for other goats, anyway, there was nothing left of that paraphernalia except a lot of broken glass. Then they found a row of crocks full of different kinds of mash. Maybe there was no smell to the mash, but it must've tasted good, for they licked it up slick and clean.

I forgot to tell you that this stuff Riley is putting out has a kick like a government mule. From the looks of that cabin them goats must have got into another argument amongst themselves, for they sure messed up the premises. In the mixup they knocked Riley's desk over and all his formulas were scattered on the floor. They came in just right for dessert, and in a little while there was nothing left of Riley's discoveries, and when he and his partner came home they found that the

sum of their research had gone down into the interiors of a bunch of unpedigreed goats.

We could've squared everything, Ern, except them formulas. Riley claims that they were absolutely priceless, and that five thousand dollars don't represent no more than the price of paper and ink and ingredients used in working out their discoveries. It's a misfortune to mankind, is the way Riley puts it, and five thousand dollars don't come within a mile of the actual damages.

So there you are, Ern. It looks as if some jury is going to have to work out a mighty deep problem one of these first days. Our defense is that whatever damages them goats did happened while they was in charge of the man whose wash they'd tore down earlier in the day. He'd locked 'em up in a shed and had put himself in full custody of their wayward careers. He'd taken over all responsibility, is the way we figure. So we argue that it is up to him to settle for whatever damages were committed. When it comes to the amount although we won't even enter into that part of it if we can help it, we'll claim, if that is put to us, that Riley's new drink hadn't yet been proved, that it was only problematical, if you get what I mean, and something that could be appraised only after it'd been fully tried out.

Doc is about half sore about this. He seems to think that it was up to me to keep these goats right on hand all the time. But they will get out of the pasture, Ern, and I don't see how I can help it. But we're getting plenty of business now, and he'll soon get over it. Maybe that woman where them goats tore down the wash said something to him. Or it may be that he's just preoccupied. He's working on a scheme now so the girls can have this goat treatment too, and that demands a lot of profound thought.

Well, Ern, I've got to close. Seeing as how you wasted your time writing about that nurse's finger I thought I'd mention that she's getting along all right. I'm going up on the hospital floor now to see if she's developed any inflamation.

Your friend and pal,  
Richard A. Wormwood.

## EARLY WOOL CONTRACTING IN SOUTHERN INDIANA

Wool contracting in southern Indiana is now in progress and six weeks ahead of recent years. Prices are ranging from 35 to 40 cents per pound, depending upon the grade, quality and quantity the individual growers have for sale. Several of the growers have refused to contract at even 40 cents, believing the market must be in a relatively strong position, due to the attitude and activity of the local buyers. On the other hand, many of the buyers are making an earnest effort to get clips from the best producers under contract and, by so doing, it is believed the wool owned by the smaller growers will be readily available at current contract prices.

For the most part, the grades available in this section of the state will fall in the three-eighths and quarter-blood staple classes, with the clip from the older ewes bordering on medium and half-blood clothing. The wool from western ewes in this area is being discounted five cents a pound, due largely to the shortness of the staple. The type and age of the ewes undoubtedly have much to do with this situation. In recent years, many old range ewes have been "dumped" in southern Indiana by dealers and they are not only failing to produce a satisfactory wool clip but their lamb production is far below that of the native ewes.

The wool of southern Indiana is relatively light in shrinkage and quite similar to the wools produced in Kentucky. It has been well grown this season due to the large quantities of legume hay available for winter feed. Alfalfa has been especially abundant. The weather during this winter has been such that the bluegrass on the limestone hills was readily available for pasture. This pasture, together with liberal feeding of legume hay and a small amount of grain, has brought the native ewes of southern Indiana through in good shape. In fact, they look more thrifty and are undoubtedly carrying more flesh than in any recent winter.

Two-thirds of the lambs have been dropped in this area and there have been very few complaining of losses. Well over 100 per cent of lambs has been saved up to the present time and, with spring pastures only a few weeks off, the sheep growers of southern Indiana are expressing optimism in regard to returns from lambs and wool this season.

C. H.

### RECENT WOOL SALES

Forty cents, f. o. b. Idaho shipping points, is the contract figure reported by the Idaho Bulletin for February 29 in a deal that involved 41,000 fleeces of 1928 wool. Mr. Scott Anderson of Boise made the contract with the Oregon City Woolen Mills. This price was the highest to be paid in Idaho for 1928 up to that date.

A press item of March 2 stated that Silberman & Sons of Chicago had taken one choice Wyoming clip of 38 cents, and had also bought 25,000 fleeces at 37 cents flat. Dewey, Gould & Co. is reported as having paid 38 cents for 21,000 Wyoming fleeces.

In Arizona as high as 43½ cents is reported as having been paid. Secretary Embach, of the Arizona Association, in an interview with the Daily News Record, states that one-third of the 4,000,000 pounds of Arizona wools to be marketed this year has been sold at an average price of 38 cents a pound. He attributes the satisfactory activity of wool dealers in that state this year to be due not only to the better condition of the wool market, but also in part to the improvement in the Arizona wools.

## The Boston Wool Market

By Henry A. Kidder

Though the market has lost none of its previous strength, trading was much less active in February than in the previous month. Depleted stocks and advancing prices were two important factors in bringing about a change in this direction, but something must also be attributed to the uncertainty attached to the heavy-weight goods openings. Though there seems to be an optimistic feeling extant over the outlook for the new season, success is by no means actually assured. Optimistic predictions have been recently made by President A. G. Pierce of the American Woolen Company, regarding the 1920 outlook for that concern. That a previous big operating loss was in 1927 turned into a surplus promises well for the future, according to wool trade opinion.

It is true that the prices made by the big concern on its new heavy-weight lines were lower than expected, but it is evident that the company officials have figured costs and selling prices very closely. If other competing concerns will do as well in that particular, better times in the industry ought to be assured. Goods

prices may have considerable effect upon the marketing of the new Territory wool clip; at least upon the probable figures at which the transfers can be made from the contractors to the mills.

There continues to be considerable difference of opinion between the wool trade and manufacturers regarding actual wool values. Naturally, the wool trade bases its forecasts upon what has already been paid on contracts, and what they may be forced to pay for the remainder of the clip when the wool is shorn. Manufacturers look at the matter from an entirely different angle: They claim that wool prices can go no higher, as they can not feel sure that goods buyers will be willing to pay more, no matter how wide and important the distribution may prove to be when market trends are fully developed.

The upward trend of wool values from the buying end has become more and more pronounced as the season has progressed. Advances of several cents a pound over last year's price level have been the rule, and this has been accentuated by recent

happenings in Arizona, where opening prices this season have been often 10 cents a pound above last year. It is a long step from contracting to the final distribution of the clip, but it takes only a casual survey of the situation in Summer Street to show that the general feeling is one of optimism. It is believed that the situation is this year to be controlled by domestic wool interests, and however loth mill interests may be to meet the situation squarely, in the end that must be done.

With the exception of some desultory contracting in Montana and Wyoming, and possibly in other states to a lesser degree, the big contracting movement appears to be practically over. Occasional clips are being taken over here and there, but prices have not recently shown a tendency to advance further. This leads some wool men to say that the market has been stabilized on about the high levels of the season. Evidently they do not look for much if any change at shearing time. Just how much effect the growing scarcity of spot wools in this market may have upon this phase of the situation is one of the problems of today.

Most wool men are in a very optimistic frame of mind, as far as prices go. What merit there is in the mill contention that it would spell hardship to them to have wool prices go higher is another of the unsolved problems. The question of wool prices, high or low, is not of so much interest to the majority of the wool growers as it was before they contracted to deliver approximately 120,000,000 pounds of Territory wool to the order of eastern buyers, this figure being the latest estimate of the volume of contracts.

The wool trade "took its courage in both hands," and notwithstanding possible effect upon contract prices, advanced their selling figures to somewhere near what was apparently justified by the condition of stocks in Summer Street. Following that lead, the wool growers made an effort to share in the benefits arising from the changed conditions. Manufacturers alone, out of the interests handling raw wool, have steadily and consistently refused to meet the situation squarely, and have continued to bring to bear every pos-

sible influence to prevent a reasonable increase in wool values.

There are some in the wool trade who believe that the coming months are to see the development of a keen contest between buyers and sellers as to prices. Looking over the world situation calmly and without prejudice, it is difficult for the fairminded observer to see aught but strength in the situation. The position of domestic wools is well understood here and in the West. Stocks of old wool are abnormally low in eastern distributing markets; lower than for a series of years as a matter of fact. With the exception of the early shorn wools to come from Arizona, there is no possible way in which these stocks can be renewed until the new clip wools come forward in volume weeks later.

Looking at the foreign situation, even greater strength is noted than on this side of the water. Bradford has at last come around to a belief in the soundness of the present position of raw wool, and late operations by her buyers in Colonial markets testify strongly to this change of front. The trend of the Boston market is for prices of fine domestic wools to draw nearer to clean landed cost of wools from abroad of similar character and usefulness. Parity is not yet in sight, but it is nearer than at the beginning of the year. Germany, France and Japan are also contributing largely to this strength by liberal buying, and quite recently American buyers have been showing increased interest in markets where wools suitable for America are to be had.

The end of the season in Australia and New Zealand is already in sight, and that point has practically been reached in South African and River Plate markets. Purchases for American account in Australia have been very much smaller than a year ago. Latest reliable estimates regarding the probable shipments from thence to this country run from 80,000 to 90,000 bales. This compares with total shipments for the previous season of 143,000 bales. Both manufacturers and dealers have greatly reduced their Australian takings from normal; the former because temporarily, at least, they found domestic wools cheaper, and the latter owing to a justifiable revolt from any longer being the goat of the textile industry.

Similar conditions exist in New Zealand, where Americans are showing some belated energy, but are meeting with keen competition from England and the Continent. The season in the Montevideo market is already over, as far as wools suitable for this country are concerned. Everything, therefore, points to a lack of the usual competition from foreign sources, which ought to steady the price situation here very materially.

February has been rather a quiet month in the Boston wool trade. The principal impediment in the way of a free movement of wool being the lack of suitable stock. This is especially true of fine staple wools, which have been in small supply all the season. The drive made upon medium wools late in 1927 exhausted stocks of wool of that character, especially of quarter-blood staple. This latter feature of the market, caused medium wools to advance to levels all out of proportion with the finer grades.

There has also been more or less speculative trading between dealers, particularly in half-blood wools on the gheezy side. Some large operators seem to have found an opportunity for a profitable turnover, and have been acting accordingly. One buyer is said to have taken over approximately 2,000,000 pounds of half-blood wool. Another speculative feature of the month has been the clearing of odds and ends, tags, burry, seedy, blacks and all the loft sweepings accumulated during the season. Stuff of this description was taken over by dealers who saw a chance to scour and condition these wools for the use of the woolen mills. Not only was there considerable doing in these wools, but there was also more or less speculation in pulled wools and in Territory scoureds, the latter being at no time in large supply. Some of these lots have been turned at a profit, while others are still being held for a favorable turn of the market.

Choice fine and fine medium staple wool, at all times scarce, has been particularly so of late. Really choice lots are quoted at \$1.18 to \$1.20, and some are even talking \$1.25, though with no warrant in actual trading. As the bulk of the fine wool supply during the month has been of the French combing type, much

New showing with the tevideo wools concerned. Lack of foreign price month incipal move- suitable of fine small made exhaustracter, This caused wools all grades. specu- articu- gfeasy to have fitable accord- taken hands of cumulative clear- seedy, cumulu his de- sers who at these these. Not in these or less Ter- at no se lose lots others the turn

staple in par- the lots ne are war- bulk of th has much

of the trading has been in wools of that character. Among the sales of the month was about 500,000 pounds of Utah French combing wool, which sold within the clean range of \$1.10 to \$1.12. Some holders are talking up to \$1.15 for their choice French combing wools, but that figure is exceedingly difficult to obtain.

Owing perhaps largely to the speculative call for half-blood staple wools that grade has shown unusual strength, recent sales having been made within the clean range of \$1.10 to \$1.15, the top figure being the asking price for the choicest lots. Medium Territory wools continue to show much strength, and prices are now fully five cents the clean pound higher than was noted a month ago. Quarter-blood staple is quotable at 95 cents to \$1 clean and three-eighths-blood staple at \$1 to \$1.05. Very little low quarter-blood wool is available, and that little is very firmly held at 80 to 85 cents clean.

The position of fine Ohio and similar fleece wool is much less assured than Territory wools of the same character. Delaine wools have been going slowly, being in much larger supply than the half-blood and medium combing grades. Sales have been made during the month at 49 to 51 cents in the grease, the high figure being realized for a choice lot of western Pennsylvania Delaine of light shrinkage. Heavy shrinking wools bring prices in proportion, it being entirely a matter of shrinkage.

Half-blood combing wools have sold at 52 cents, the current quotation for this grade being 51 to 52 cents. Quarter-blood staple wool is very firm at 52 cents, having sold at that figure during the month. Three-eighths-blood staple combing wool is in rather better supply than quarter-bloods, while the demand has not been quite so keen, hence that grade can not be quoted at over 50 to 51 cents. Remaining stocks of fine unwashed clothing wool are being moved very slowly. Best lots are quoted 41 to 42 cents, a sale being noted at 41½ cents. Average wools bring less money.

Further advances are noted in the prices current for the best scoured wools from the eastern pullers. Today's quotations are \$1.18 to \$1.23 for AA wools, \$1.14 to \$1.18 for fine A super, \$1.07 to \$1.12 for

A super, \$1 to \$1.05 for choice B super, 92 to 95 cents for ordinary B super, 80 to 85 cents for C super and 70 to 85 cents for gray pulled. Combing pulled wools are firm and selling well in the grease at 80 cents for fine combing, 83 to 85 cents for B combing and 80 to 82 cents for medium combing. Western pulled wools are offered by the independent pullers at 90 to 95 cents for A super and 83 to 85 cents for B super.

There is comparatively little doing in this market in foreign wools of the better type, especially in Australian fine wools. Some 64s to 70s are changing hands at \$1.10 clean in bond and 60s at around \$1.05. These prices are for wools bought some time since. Apparently, mill buyers are not yet ready to operate on today's foreign basis. Prices are expected to advance 5 to 10 per cent over January closing rates, at the next series of the London wools sales, scheduled to open March 13.

The whole situation looks strong, though depleted stocks and the existing uncertainty in the goods trade suggest caution in making new commitments.

#### THE OPERATION OF LIVE STOCK TRAFFIC LANES IN TEXAS

The creation of new live-stock traffic lanes in the West Texas sheep country was one of the big developments of 1927 when a movement to get sheep to market in a more satisfactory way was launched all over the country. The taking of the highways by the automobiles had made the trailing of sheep over these roads next to impossible and something had to be done. The trap company and the opening of new roads answered the problem.

The trap company buys or leases a section of land every ten miles or so and puts up a windmill there. The lease commands as high as \$1 an acre per year and the windmill and tanks will cost around \$3000. There are traps at the destination and traps all along the route. The dates of movement of sheep are so arranged that no overcrowding of the traps occurs. The fact that a few men buy a large percentage of the sheep and lambs helps out in this, as they do not want to accept delivery of all their purchases on the same day.

The trap companies sell their stock

among the members, and the cost of maintenance of the traps is accomplished by the taxing of a small amount per head of sheep. Those who do not belong to the trap company must, of course, pay a larger amount for the use of the facilities. The increasing practice of buying lambs by the pound is making the use of the traps and their water a very important factor, as with this necessary care the sheep do not shrink so heavily.

Securing the road is usually accomplished by the county commissioners who declare the route used a public road. It is wide, often as much as 200 yards, and is laned at times and at others, not laned. In most cases the right-of-way is granted by the owners of the ranches traversed, but in case it must be bought, the trap companies will assist the counties if necessary. The ranchers, however, are glad to give the land usually to avoid the possibility of their own sheep getting diseases from other sheep passing through. Again the high price of leases is a factor in the demand for these lanes. Between the ranches where the road is not laned cattle guards are put up. On the road from the end of the lane down in Sutton County to Mertzon in Irion County, a distance of perhaps seventy-five miles, there are cattle guards costing about \$150 each. They are wide enough for two trucks to pass and the wings are so built that if a truck crashes into them, the truck and not the guards will be the loser.

Of course, any one can drive his stuff to market over these roads as they are public highways, but the water is a big factor and a good place to bed the sheep down at night must also be considered. It is thought that as time goes on the government will take over and maintain traps just as some railways have done, or at least that the government will erect windmills and furnish watering places.

The most famous of the trap companies is the Ozona-Barnhart Trap Company, which has the route over which thousands of sheep pass to market every year. Nearly every ranchman in the section belongs to it. It has a section trap at Barnhart where the sheep are kept before they are shipped out. Its operation over a number of years has been highly successful.

San Angelo, Texas

Sam. Ashburn

# News and Views of the Lamb Market

## CHICAGO

Eras of good feeling occur in the sheep house at intervals; February, 1928, was one of these somewhat infrequent events. Everybody appeared to like the going and that includes killers, feeders, salesmen, and traders, for the latter had a finger in the pie. Just how it all happened is puzzling the trade; that it did happen was tantamount to a benefaction to the sheep industry at large. All the "dope" previously ground out by the oracle mill concerning the course of the late winter market was discredited as top lambs advanced almost continuously from \$13.35, the low spot of January when feeders took alarm, until an outside sale to a speculator was made, at the close of February, at \$16.65. Instead of an expected \$13 market, the figure \$16 was substituted, a large number of lambs selling at \$15.75@16. All this was not accomplished on starvation supply as the principal western markets were well supplied. The eleven points received right around a million head, including a few sheep, or practically the same number as in February, 1927, and as few went back to the country it was a meat run. That supply was intelligently distributed will not be disputed; probably that precaution had some influence on values. Chicago had a short run, but Kansas City bagged more than a year ago, as did also Omaha, St. Joseph, and Denver. Other than Chicago the short markets were Buffalo and St. Paul. The lesser markets east of Chicago were all short, the result of cleaning up native lambs and the fact that few westerns went in last fall, giving feeders west of the Missouri River a practical monopoly of the late winter supply; otherwise results might have been different. The February run at Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Joe, Denver, Buffalo, and St. Paul was about 980,000 against 925,000 in February last year. Had prediction been made early in January that a supply of that volume would have been readily absorbed on a \$15@16 basis it would have been ridiculous.

Probably the most surprising, if not astounding feature of the late winter mar-

ket has been the somewhat cordial reception accorded the big lamb, 95 pounds and up. Standard handyweights were so scarce that the 90-pounder was placed in that category. Discrediting the oft-repeated assertion that the public would not buy the product of heavy lamb, that product moved into distributive channels with gratifying alacrity, creating at least a suspicion that the contention has been strained. When 98-pound lambs, fat as butter balls, sell within 50 cents of the top price, with lambs weighing 90 pounds up constituting the bulk of supply, all the stereotyped arguments as to why heavy lamb is unpopular must be discarded on the theory that it acquires popularity when featherweight carcasses are not available. It may be that the near-millennium has been reached in bovine circles, that heavy product has actually gained popularity in consumer circles and that feeders with big lambs in their lots after the turn of the year will no longer be under the necessity of walking the floor nights when loading time approaches.

The climax of this surprising market was reached at the end of February when a speculator was responsible for a scratch top at \$16.65, but a sprinkling of light lambs went over at \$16.50 and \$16.60. Speculators did it, their practice being to mix such top lambs with cheaper grades, reselling them to packers. Just how they get away with it is a puzzle, but as they stay on the job it must yield a little money. On the last round of February the market developed a weak undertone, indicating that the bloom was off as feed lots west of the Missouri River had a lot of lambs to market during March and April which suggested the necessity of accelerating the movement. All through February lambs were kept moving, however. The packer buy during the third week of the month around the western market circle figured approximately 180,000 head, and as a large proportion of the buy was heavy, unhandyweight carcasses, it meant a lot of product.

Did packers support the market? An impression exists in trade circles that such was the case. At least they went along

with it, paying the advance without balking. As one facetious critic put it, "they gave prices unusual support." It is not possible to say how much the buyers were influenced by representations of the feeders' committee from Colorado and Nebraska late in January at which feeders emphasized the danger of heavy loss on the winter crop, incidentally suggesting that if this fear was realized the winter lamb feeding industry in northern Colorado and elsewhere would lack a promising future. It may have been merely a coincidence, but immediately thereafter prices began moving upward. From a \$14.75 top early in February that mark advanced to \$16.65 and while packers were not responsible for it, they paid \$16 for 98-pound lambs which was relatively higher than the top. Usually big lambs, 95 pounds and up, are a bad selling proposition late in the winter, but on this occasion they went over the scales with reasonable alacrity, especially when the large percentage of that kind in the crop is considered. Undoubtedly scarcity of handyweights and strength of that trade exerted a favorable influence on big lambs. The upturn of February, from first to last, was \$1 to \$1.50 per hundredweight; from the low spot in January it was \$2.75 to \$3.25 per hundredweight.

Outstanding features of late winter trade were:

Free loading by Colorado and heavy receipts at western markets; light supplies at eastern markets.

The large percentage of lambs weighing 95 pounds and up in the crop. It was a record supply in this respect, showing that Colorado and Nebraska tucked away a large number of heavy lambs last fall in the effort to fill up.

Healthy dressed markets, despite low cost and abundance of pork. Beef was scarce, of inferior quality, and prohibitive in price, and to vary the meat diet consumers bought lamb.

Inception of the western contracting season, both in California and elsewhere, for which the healthy fat lamb market was responsible.

Arrival at New York of the first dressed California lambs of the season on February 27, realizing 35 and 36 cents per pound.

Broad demand for feeding and shearing lambs, coincident with the advance in and difficulty in securing more than a handful.

High prices for pelts that were a sustaining influence on live lamb prices.

Free contracting of new crop western lambs anywhere from ten to 11 cents per pound for fall delivery at range loading points.

Keen competition among packers for the spring California lamb crop, largely at \$12.50 @ 13, or \$1.50 higher than last year.

An epitome of February prices follows:

Week ending February 4: Top lambs, \$15.25; bulk, \$14@15. Feeding and shearing lambs, \$13.25@14.25. Top yearlings, \$13; bulk, \$11.50@13. Top fat ewes, \$8.40; bulk, \$7.75@8.25.

Week ending February 11: Top fat lambs \$16; bulk, \$15.25@15.65. Feeding lambs, \$13.75@14.50. Top yearlings, \$14.25; bulk, \$13.25@14.25. Top fat ewes, \$9.50; bulk, \$8.50@9.50.

Week ending February 18: Top lambs \$16.30; bulk, \$15.25@15.85. Feeding lambs, \$14@14.75. Top yearlings, \$15; bulk, \$13@14.85. Top fat ewes, \$9.75; bulk, \$9@9.75.

Week ending February 25: Top lambs, \$16.50; bulk, \$15.50@16.25. Feeding lambs, \$14.25@15.25. Top yearlings, \$14.85; bulk, \$14@14.85. Top ewes, \$9.85; bulk, \$9@9.40.

The stub end week, two days at the finish of the month, developed a scratch top on lambs at \$16.65, with a reaction to \$16.25 on the last round when \$15.50@16 took the bulk. Feeding lambs advanced to \$14.75@15.60, yearlings reached \$15, and the bulk of the fat ewes went at \$9@9.50.

Bulk of the Colorado lambs sold during the week ending February 4 at \$14.40 @14.75; the week ending February 11 at \$15.25@15.65; the week ending February 18 at \$15.25@15.75, extreme weights down to \$15; and during the week ending February 25 at \$15.50@16.25, 81 to 90-pound stock making \$15.75@16.25; 90 to 95-pounds, \$15.50@16 and heavier lambs down to \$15. On the last round 84-pound Colorados reached \$16.50; 91 to 98-pounders selling at \$15.65@16.

At the beginning of February, the week ending February 4, a sensational jump of \$1 to \$1.25 per hundredweight carried lamb prices to the highest levels since June 21, 1927, or \$2@2.25 above January 16. Feeding and shearing lambs gained 75 cents to \$1 and sheep 25@35 cents. The week of February 11 saw lambs marked up 60@75 cents, a \$16 top marking the highest altitude since June, 1927. Fat ewes at \$9.50 were the highest in ten months, sheep gaining 75 cents to \$1. Feeding lambs were up 50 cents. During

the week of February 18 the advance was temporarily checked, the market acquiring a top heavy appearance, but during the final week of the month a fresh spurt developed, lambs advancing 50 to 75 cents, with less discrimination against weight and a narrow spread between heavy and light lambs.

Trade opinion at the beginning of March was that the market had had its bulge and that packers would be less acquiescent thereafter in following upturns. No complaint has come from that quarter concerning minus profit margins, however, and the confidence with which packers and speculators have taken hold of the new lamb crop proposition is not suggestive of substantially lower prices, all the handwriting on the market wall being indicative of a high spring lamb trade. The late winter market has been more than satisfactory to all concerned.

At the end of February last year top lambs were worth \$15.65 at Chicago; in 1926, \$15.25; 1925, \$18.15; 1924, \$16.35; 1923, \$15.30; 1922, \$16.30; 1921, \$10.25; and in 1920, \$20.

J. E. Poole

#### OMAHA

Although February's run of approximately 245,000 head of sheep and lambs was about 97,000 heavier than for the corresponding period a year ago, as well as the second largest total for that month in the history of the Omaha market, prices for killer lambs continued on the upgrade and reached new peaks for the season. Not only were gains of \$1.25@1.50 registered over January's closing sales, but values ruled anywhere from \$1@3 over those of February, 1927, and also showed a substantial margin over the same period of 1926.

Influences in general that had a bearing on prices favored salesmen. Runs at eastern points continued relatively light, giving rise to a brisk demand for killing classes both on local and shipping account, and the markets for dressed lamb in the East gave good support most of the time.

Strength of the demand for lambs on shipping account was further emphasized during February by the fact that right at 20 per cent of the month's run was forwarded to eastern points.

Top on fat lambs at the close of January was \$14.25, with the bulk selling at \$13.60@14.10. The third week of February marked the high time for the month. Top on the 24th hit \$15.90, while the majority of the lambs cashed at \$15.25@15.75 that week. Some reaction set in during the closing days of the month and the final top was \$15.50, with the bulk of all the lambs received during the 29-day period bringing \$14.75@15.50.

Salesmen are generally inclined to be optimistic over prospects for the balance of the season and some feel that the peak has not yet been reached. During the last few days, however, packers have been exceedingly bearish when total receipts at the principal western markets would not seem to justify their attitude, and with a lot of lambs still left to come out of Colorado, as well as about 25 per cent of the Scottsbluff area unshipped, it remains to be seen what the next thirty days will hold in the way of remuneration for the feeder. Reports emanating from California seem to indicate that supplies from that source will not be heavy until bulk of the fed lambs are out of the way and sales reported out there so far are considerably higher than those at this time last year.

Business in feeders was the lightest for any February since 1924. This was due mostly to lack of supplies. Demand was vigorous at all times but the lambs were not here as a majority of the fat stock has been selling straight and very few load lots were received. This, together with the advance in fat lambs, was responsible for upturns of \$1.00@1.50 for the month in this branch of the trade.

Shipments of feeding lambs back to the country totaled 14,109 head, in comparison with 22,952 head last February, and bulk of these went into nearby Nebraska feed lots, many of them to be shorn. Prices paid were the highest in three years, ranging from \$14.50@15.25 largely, with the best kinds up to \$15.50 at the high time. Straight shearing lambs sold up to \$15.35.

Aged sheep also scored sharp advances, amounting to around \$1, partly seasonal but due as well to comparatively light supplies most of the time and a healthy de-

mand for the better grades of fat ewes from all interests.

Strictly choice quality was none too plentiful and bulk of the ewes went at \$8@9, with the top reaching a new season's level of \$9.60. Trade in feeding and breeding ewes, as usual at this time of the year, was on a mostly nominal basis. Feeding ewes cashed upwards to \$6.50.

K. H. Kittoe.

### KANSAS CITY

The February sheep market was the best of the season, fully \$2 higher than the January average, and the highest in any February since 1925. The market had practically an uninterrupted upward movement in the first three weeks, the top reaching \$15.80 on the 21st. From then on it fluctuated within a 15 to 25-cent range, and closed with best lambs bringing \$15.25 to \$15.50. On several days the top price was \$15.75. After the seventh the bulk of the lambs brought \$15 to \$15.50, and sales at this range included many weighing above 95 pounds. Lamb feeders needed a good market in February to offset some of the losses they had to take in December and January, and for the feeders who still have unmarketed lambs it will take a good stiff price this month to make them clear the season with a profit. At any rate the February advance modified previous losses considerably.

A good demand for dressed lamb and mutton and a strong market for wool and pelts were factors that brought the advance. However, it is more than probable that March will do well to hold to the February level. In a general way western feeders are in a strong position. The bulk of the fed lambs to be marketed in the next thirty days are in western Nebraska and Colorado. Fed lambs in other sections have been cleaned up, but California and Arizona will have early lambs moving before the end of March, and unless winter-fed lambs are pretty well cleaned up they will be caught in a price slump. Colorado by heavy shipping can get in before this condition becomes effective and with practically all the fed lambs east of the Missouri River already absorbed, the West can depend on a wide open outlet for the next three weeks.

The "Eat More Lamb and Mutton" campaign has had a beneficial effect in the sheep market, probably more noticeable, because beef prices reached the highest levels ever known in a peace-time period. One of the outstanding features in the trade has been the readiness with which the strong and heavyweight lambs were absorbed. The price discount under the handy and light-weight classes, was less than normal whereas more than a normal discount had been anticipated as the general average weight of fat lambs has been above previous years. Another condition brought about by the relatively good prices for heavy lambs was that heavy lambs moved to feed yards to be shorn came onto the market in full fleece so that after the middle of February comparatively few shorn lambs were shown. From now on, however, the per cent of shorn offerings will increase, especially if normal March temperatures prevail.

While the heavyweight lambs have commanded a premium all season, heavy lambs have not only cleared readily, but they moved freely in the retail trade. In reality the heavy lambs, as a rule, carry more finish than the lighter weights and if the consumer could be brought to the point of wanting the heavy lamb it would be of material benefit to producers as well as feeders for the simple reason that lambs could go into feed lots at heavier weights and there would be more of a margin for feeders to operate on. If the flockmaster can sell at 70 to 75 pound weights instead of 60 to 65 pounds, and the fed lambs are wanted at 90 to 95 pounds, it means a much larger amount of money going into producers' hands without increasing numbers.

Best ewes sold at \$9 to \$9.25; wooled yearlings \$13 to \$13.75, and wooled wethers \$9.75 to \$10. These prices were fully \$2 above the January level and the highest of the season. Mature sheep made up only a small per cent of the run, and not many are in sight for the next thirty days.

In the feeder line the few offered sold at \$14 to \$15, some heavy wooled grades for shearing brought \$15.25. In the next thirty days the call for shearing lambs will vary in relation to the margin under full fleece kinds that shorn grades bring.

In the past few days shorn lambs sold at \$12.75 to \$13.25.

February receipts were 129,005, compared with 87,241 in the second month last year. In the two months this year receipts were 264,002, compared with 217,751 in the same period 1927.

C. M. Pipkin

### ST. JOSEPH

Sheep receipts for the month of February, were around 157,500, about 45,000 more than the same month last year and the largest ever received in this month. There was a liberal movement from Colorado during the month, more than half the total receipts being from that state.

The market was in good shape throughout the month and lamb values are \$1.25 @1.75 higher than a month ago, heavier weights showing the most advance. Aged sheep are around \$1.25 higher for the month. Best lambs on the close sold \$15.25@15.50, others down to \$14.75, these weighing 104 pounds. Similar kinds a month ago quoted around \$13.00, with best handweights at \$14.25. Clipped lambs were around \$13.00 on the close, and feeders, \$14.50@15.00. On the close good ewes sold \$9.00 @9.25, wethers \$10.00@11.50, and yearlings \$13.00@13.50.

H. H. Madden

### DENVER

A strong demand prevailed for sheep and lambs on the Denver market throughout the entire month of February. Despite the fact that receipts were heavy here, packers took the fat lambs offered readily, and at the close of the month a substantial advance over the January price level was recorded. The month's receipts were 204,261—the largest February supply ever received here. A year ago only 92,068 head arrived.

At the beginning of February, good quality fat lambs were selling around \$13.65, whereas at the close, choice lightweight lambs were bringing \$14.75 to \$14.80. On several occasions during the month choice lambs topped at \$15 and up to \$15.35 and \$15.50, the latter price being the extreme top thus far this season. Feeder lambs sold around \$13 and \$13.50 at the beginning of the month, whereas

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good quality, medium-weight feeders were bringing \$14 to \$14.65 at the close. Good fat ewes sold early in February at \$7.60 to \$7.85 and at the close of the month they were about \$1 higher at \$8.50 to \$8.75.

The orderly marketing efforts of the northern Colorado lamb feeders are resulting in an equitable distribution of the supply at markets and prices are being maintained on a highly satisfactory basis. The Denver market can easily absorb from 8,000 to 12,000 lambs a day and the sup-

ply is being maintained on about this basis. An even greater supply has been handled here at times with little difficulty. There is little question that all of the lambs in feed lots in the West will be wanted if properly distributed during the next eight or ten weeks, and with the organization that sheep feeders now have to see to it that this distribution is properly made, there is every reason to believe that prices will be well maintained.

W. N. Fulton

## Healthy Spring and Summer Lamb Market Indicated

Spring and summer lamb trade prospects are excellent at this writing early in March.

A high late-winter lamb market has infused confidence, dispelled latent pessimism, and put the whole trade in good humor. The unanimity with which the quartette of big packers has gone after the California spring lamb crop is encouraging as prices are somewhat higher than a year ago when one packer bagged the big end of the crop. This year they were all in together with a coterie of individual speculators, with the result that growers got around 1½ cents per pound more for their crop. A little competition is a wondrous thing. Some California lambs have been contracted up to 13 cents; the bulk at 12½ cents. A year ago 11 cents was the average price.

California's incomparable climate is somewhat eccentric with respect to its lamb production. Contracts have been made on a fat basis. Dry weather would prevent delivery at the prices indicated and some aridity is reported.

A larger percentage of the California lamb crop will be dressed on the Coast and go to the Atlantic seaboard dressed this year than ever before. The initial shipment of California dressed spring lamb reached New York on February 27, selling at 35@36 cents per pound. Up to the middle of May it is safe to send dressed lamb across the continent by express. The product is popular and seasonal. This year the initial shipment weighed 43 pounds; the heavy end 50 pounds. These lambs are too heavy for "coast"

trade. The light end realized dressed prices equivalent to \$17@17.50 per hundredweight, live weight, at Chicago, which is regarded as a healthy harbinger of the spring market.

Shipping dressed lamb from California to New York has been facilitated by reduction of the express rate to 4½ cents per pound, or one cent less than last year. With icing cost and incidental charges the expense is now 5½ to 6 cents per pound against 7 cents recently. The California crop will be expressed dressed until the middle of May when live lambs will begin moving eastward. Packers and speculators will contract about 75 per cent of the crop this year.

In the Northwest contracts have been made for new crop lambs anywhere from \$10 to \$11 per hundredweight, fall delivery. Colorado feeders are somewhat enthused over the results of this season's operations, which have been profitable, and are in a mood to make provision for filling feed lots next fall without delay. In the corn belt there is a disposition to exercise caution as this winter's feeding was unprofitable up to the latter part of January. Whatever the outcome of 1928 lambing in the West may be, there will be a raft of native lambs grown east of the Missouri River and a considerable percentage of them will be held for fall and early winter feeding, creating competition of which farmer feeders must take cognizance. Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio propose at least to make an effort to substitute native for western lambs in fall and winter feeding operations here-

after. This was done on a somewhat extensive scale with the 1927 crop, so that corn-belt feeders who did not load up with western lambs congratulated themselves. More native lambs than ever will be fed this year and they will come into direct competition with westerns.

There will be a broad market for western breeding ewes all through the coming season. Stock cattle are high and getting into the cattle raising game is expensive, tedious, and to the great majority of farmers, impossible, while a band of ewes may be easily installed with certainty of early revenue in the shape of wool and lambs. The corn belt has had its confidence in hogs jolted, getting into cattle breeding is difficult, and the sheep offers a short, easy route out of the dilemma. County advisors, extension workers, and state animal husbandry men are boosting lamb raising in chorus and it is highly probable that the response will be prompt and effective.

J. E. Poole

## NEW SERVICE OPEN TO CALIFORNIA LAMB RAISERS

Under the firm name of Noble & Cleary, Geo. J. Cleary, formerly manager of the Whitney Estate, and president of the California Wool Growers Association during 1927, and Ed. Noble, a well known lamb buyer of California, are offering a unique service to California sheepmen, according to a recent announcement in the California Wool Grower.

Lamb raisers wishing to take advantage of this service employ the firm to act as their agents in sorting, shipping, feeding in transit, and selling their lambs, and pay them twenty-five cents a head for the work. Included in this fee is insurance against losses from the time of loading until the lambs arrive at the markets. The lambs are to be sold through one commission firm, which it is believed will eliminate competition between shipments of California lambs reaching the same market on the same day, and will result in top lambs selling for top prices.

Under the present arrangements, Mr. Noble will attend to the sorting of the lambs at the home ranch. He will ad-

vise the owners which lambs should be shipped and which should be held until a later date, a process that will make it possible for the owner to receive top prices both for his prime lambs and his

feeders. Each shipment of lambs will be accompanied by one of the firm's expert shippers from the point of loading to Sparks, Nevada. This first day's run is considered the most important as the largest shrinkages and heaviest losses occur during it. With the lambs under the personal care of an expert, it is thought that the shipper will save more than enough to offset the fee charged for the service. Then at each feeding point east of Sparks a representative of the firm will be stationed to feed and water all shipments properly. Mr. Cleary will be located at Laramie, Wyoming, the diversion point for the Denver, St. Joseph, Kansas City, Omaha, and Chicago markets. He will be fully informed as to the prices and expected runs at each of these markets and will be in a position to handle the distribution of shipments so that the glutting of any one market may be avoided.

13½ cents, f. o. b. shipping point, May delivery. Other offers are noted at \$10.25 on the head basis. Good rains over the state during the first week of March were a very bullish factor. The week before that when climatic conditions were not so favorable, buyers reported lamb raisers telephoning in offering to sell lambs. With the coming of the rains the situation was reversed and buyers are now scouring the country districts for lambs to keep the "home fires burning."

California Wool Grower

#### SUCCESSFUL RODENT CONTROL WORK

Since taking over the management of the Howard Sheep Company, (Ash Fork, Arizona) we have started a range improvement program which is proving very successful and which should be of interest to all stockmen.

Upon my first trip over the company's range I found that the damage from prairie dogs to the range was very great. In fact there was no doubt that the prairie dogs were taking more feed than the sheep. I immediately got in touch with the U. S. Biological Survey rodent control people through Mr. D. A. Gilchrist who directs the work in this state and Mr. Ben E. Foster, his assistant working in the Ash Fork district.

We decided to exterminate the prairie dogs from one township of land and if successful, to continue the work until the entire range was cleared.

The work of clearing the 23,040 acres of prairie dogs started the last week in July and ended August 31. Before starting the extermination we made a survey and found that there were 8 prairie dogs to the acre upon the township or 184,320 prairie dogs. The job was a complete success as I have only seen one or two since the crew finished and we are killing them as fast as we see them.

When you consider that we only paid out \$279.15 for labor, chuck and horse feed and that the poison only cost \$221.39 or a total cost of \$500.54 for clearing the prairie dogs from one township of land, you will realize how well pleased we are with this improvement and the economical manner in which the work was carried out.

Phoenix, Ariz.

Ramon Aso

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- Every six days—one new passenger car
- Every two and one-half hours—one new freight car

Essential to the life of agriculture and industry, these cars and locomotives cost \$61,105,715. During the same five-year period Pacific Fruit Express, in which Southern Pacific owns half interest, purchased 13,647 refrigerator cars at a cost of \$44,380,933.

Lacking adequate motive power, cars and other facilities, railroads could not long continue to serve the public efficiently and well.

Railroads, to make huge and necessary expenditures for equipment, must be able to earn enough to render railway securities safe and attractive to the average citizen with a dollar to invest.

**SOUTHERN PACIFIC**

**THE OUTLOOK FOR WOOL**

(Continued from page 24)

more highly civilized countries of the world had reduced their wool requirements to the vanishing point during the past five years. When they wear wool dresses at all, a couple of yards of cloth will make them a gown; whereas, it used to take five or six yards of cloth for a gown. Further than this, wool is unfashionable with the women and increasingly so during the past few years. They have clad themselves in silk and rayon. On the other hand, if the women were consuming wool at the rate at which they consumed it prior to five years ago, there would not be enough wool to keep the men warm, and the price of wool would be 40 to 50 per cent higher than it is today.

While we can not expect that women will ever go back to the long skirts of ten or fifteen years ago, some day the styles for women's clothing will change and skirts will be somewhat longer, and every six inches of additional length on a woman's skirt means in the aggregate millions of yards of cloth. Again the time is coming when it will be a little more stylish for women to wear wool dresses instead of silk and rayon, and that will mean many more million pounds of wool. I believe that the consumption of wool by women today is at its lowest point, and that whatever change takes place will be toward the increased consumption of wool by women. It is just as well perhaps that women decreased their use of wool when they did, otherwise by this time the price of wool would have placed it among the luxuries of life.

Again, all those countries that have been heavy consumers of wool in the past and that continue to be large users of wool at present, are increasing yearly in population; this increase is at the rate of one to one and one-half per cent per annum, so that in another twenty years the wool using countries will have a population thirty to forty per cent greater than it is today.

Again, as civilization extends its boundaries people begin using wool who never used it before, as witness the great increase in the use of woolen clothing in China and the tremendous increase in the use of wool in Japan. As the yellow man

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NATIONAL RAM SALE****MORRIS SHEEP FEEDING YARDS****On the SANTA FE Railroad; at MORRIS, KANSAS**

These Yards are located ten miles west of Kansas City Stock Yards. Shippers also have the privilege of the ST. JOSEPH MARKET without additional freight charges. Stock loaded 11:00 p. m. arrives St. Joe yards at 7 a. m. next morning. Have Railroad Agent put "FEED AT MORRIS" on your freight bills and contract.

Avoid a big Shrinkage loss by filling your stock at Morris Feed Yards.

**A Trial Shipment Will Convince You!**

Capacity 45,000 Sheep—42 Cars Cattle.

Owned and operated by **SETH N. PATTERSON**

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**STOCKDALE SHEEP FEEDING YARDS****ROCK ISLAND LINES****Stockdale, Illinois, 65 miles from Chicago****Established 1890****EXCELLENT PASTURES****MODERN BARNS FOR 135 DOUBLE DECK CARS LAMBS**

434 miles from Council Bluffs, 24-hour schedule

451 miles from Kansas City. 514 miles from St. Paul

**HENRY WEITZ, Manager**

**Harry B. Black Sheep Commission Co.****SOUTH ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI****EXCLUSIVE DEALERS OF SHEEP AND LAMBS****Send Us Your Next Consignment****OUR RECORD****26 Years Selling Sheep at St. Joseph, Missouri****37 Years Actual Experience in Sheep Business****A Member of the Live Stock Exchange And Bonded for Your Protection.**

March, 1928

# "Get the Message Through"

• • •

**T**HE first communication system in the West was the pony express.

From St. Joseph, Mo., to San Francisco these riders carried the mails over mountain ranges and across wilderness and plain.

The motto of their service was "Get the Message Through!"

The telephone worker of today is inspired by the same ideal. Men and women brave dangers and undergo privations to establish and maintain this modern service of communication.

It is noteworthy that, at Denver, a splendid building which will be this company's general headquarters, is being erected on the site of one of the stations on the old pony express line.

Like those couriers of another day, the people who will occupy this building are animated by the first principle of telephone service: "Get the Message Through!"



**The Mountain States  
Telephone and Telegraph Co.**

and black man adopt civilization and the customs of the white man, they begin wearing woolen clothing as soon as they have the price to purchase it.

As the higher standards of living gradually extend themselves, wool clothing is one of the first luxuries adopted. No other kind of cloth lends itself so well to making a suit of clothes in which a man of color can make himself look civilized.

I might call your attention in this connection to the following. Japan is a prominent factor in the Australian wool markets, being only surpassed by Great Britain and France. In 1925 Japan took over 215,000 bales, which was 11 per cent of the Australian clip that year. She is also Australia's best customer for Australian made tops, using practically all that is exported from Australia.

Also in China during the last four years there has been a large decrease in cotton importations and a large increase in woolen importations.

For the past three years there has been an enormous consumption of the stocks of manufactured goods all over the world and today there is no undue surplus of goods to be found anywhere. Every indication points to a larger consumption as time goes on. Surplus supplies of wool have been used up and today there is no abnormal surplus supply of raw wool to be found anywhere in the world.

While prices may see their ups and downs, while there will be periods of expansion and rising prices and periods of depression and falling prices, I believe unless wool production increases considerably faster than can now be foreseen, the major tendency of wool prices during the next twenty years will be upward. I believe that the wool growers who keep their operations within the bounds of moderation, who do not go too heavily into debt, and who run their business on sound principles will not be wiped out when a temporary depression comes. I believe the wool growers who lay their plans along sane and conservative lines will prosper during the next twenty years, always provided that there come no political changes which radically change the economic system under which the wool grower in the United States is conducting his business today.

## OHIO RAMBOUILLET ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Ohio Branch of the American Rambouillet Breeders Association held its twentieth annual meeting in the new Animal Husbandry Building of the Ohio State University on Wednesday, February 1, 1928.

Professor D. S. Bell of the Wooster Experiment Station gave a very fine talk on feeding lambs. Professor C. S. Plumb told of his very interesting experiences in England, and Chandler P. Raup gave a good practical feeding talk.

The meeting was saddened by the very recent death of one of the directors of the association, Mr. M. J. Alge of Arlington, a veteran breeder of Rambouilletts, and the association voted to send resolutions to the family.

Officers were elected as follows: President, J. Bry Herd, East Liberty, O.; vice-president, Chalmber Bishop, Findlay, O.; secretary and treasurer, C. A. Steele, South Vienna, O. The directors chosen were Steve Alge, Arlington; G. F. Dunn, Deshler; J. M. Hively, McGuffey; Ed. Lincoln, Milford Center, and Prof. C. S. Plumb, Columbus. C. A. Steele

## THE WINTER IN NORTH DAKOTA

I am wintering 500 old Montana ewes, Cotswold and Rambouillet grade, shipped from Dillon, Montana, last fall. Twenty per cent of the ewes developed lung disease; some of them had it when shipped from Dillon. The rest of them are wintering very well. I have been feeding hay, blue stem with oats to a part of them. Wool is being held at 38 cents. No lambs have been contracted.

This little Missouri River bad land country is a splendid sheep ranging district, as there is a good variety of feed and protection from storms and big winds. There are also plenty of coyotes and bob cats, although several fellows have trained wolf hounds and catch quite a few.

This winter has been severe, with dry snow from December 5 to January 8. Then a Chinook wind cleared the country. From January 15 down to the present (March 3) the weather has been pretty good, and live stock are doing well.

Medora, N. D.

L. L. Givler

## FOR SALE

**"Ranch Fine for Lambing"**  
1200 acres on Moffat railroad, adjoining forest reserve. Bargain.  
**WILLIAM YUST**  
RADIANUM, COLORADO

## FOR SALE

**Sheep Ranches in Mendocino Co., Cal.**  
where feeding is not necessary!  
1700 acres, well improved, close in. Controls  
4000 additional acres Government range.  
Price, \$32,000.00, terms. Will carry 1500  
head.  
  
9000 acres improved. Railroad runs through  
ranch. \$9.00 per acre. Will carry 4000 head.  
  
1454 acres, best improved sheep ranch in  
county. Eight miles from town and railroad.  
\$28,500.00, terms. Will carry 1000 head.

**L. L. HOPKINS**  
UKIAH, CALIF.

## DO YOU NEED A GOOD KNIFE?

For TWO NEW subscriptions to the National Wool Grower at \$1.50 each, we will send you either the regular scout knife or a good stock knife, both of them Remingtons.

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**SHROPSHIRE PRODUCE 'EM**  
THE SMALL LAMB

is the only one that will bring the top price when it reaches the high class market.  
Even the great West is learning this important lesson. Write for printed matter.

**American Shropshire Registry  
Association**  
Lafayette, Indiana  
8,150 Members Life Membership \$5.00  
W. F. RENK J. M. WADE  
President Secy.-Treas.

## GROW MORE WOOL

**Merinos Excel All Breeds in  
Wool Production**

Write for Literature and List of  
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## CULLEN HOTEL

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH  
FRED J. LEONARD, Mgr.

**Headquarters for Sheepmen**

More Sheep bought and sold in the Cullen Hotel than in any hotel in the United States.

Rates \$1.00 and up

## RIDGECREST HAMPSHIRE



Besides the usual number of yearling stud and range rams, I will also offer some especially bred stud lambs from my newly imported sires.

**H. L. FINCH**  
SODA SPRINGS, IDAHO

THOUSAND SPRINGS  
**Hampshires**

## An honest flock

When breeders buy our stud rams they know they are getting our best. A ram from our flock will improve yours, and sire lambs you will be proud to own.

**Thousand Springs Farm**

Wendell, Idaho  
MINNIE MILLER, Owner

**DELAINE MERINOS**  
GROW MORE :: AND :: BETTER WOOL

And Are the Hardiest and Best Rangers in the World

You can range three DELAINE-MERINO ewes on the same feed it takes for two of the larger breeds; they will shear twice as much wool as the other two, and raise blockier lambs, which the trade now demands. Cross your ewes with DELAINE-MERINO BUCKS and get a band of Really Profitable Sheep to run. Will have 200 DELAINE-MERINO BUCKS for 1928 trade. I have for sale now a carload of bred ewes—registered—big smooth ones. Photos free.

Prices Reasonable

**FRANK H. RUSSELL, Wakeman, Ohio**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

That the American Hampshire Sheep Association issued more certificates of registry, and acquired more new members in 1927 than any other sheep association in the world, and that The Hon. Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States, and His Excellency, The Prince of Wales, of London, England, own Hampshires and are members of this Association? All true and why? Because we have the most popular, practical sheep on earth. That's easy.

We have a delightful little booklet and a classified list of breeders for you. They are yours for the asking. Write the Secretary for what you want.

**AMERICAN HAMPSHIRE SHEEP ASS'N.**  
MRS. MINNIE W. MILLER, President  
1427 Ramona Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah  
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**WALKER SHROPSHIRE**

175 Canadian and home-bred rams and about an equal number of ewes. A few high-classed Canadian Southdown rams. This is a very select lot of rams and there are many herd ram prospects in the lot suitable to head high-classed purebred flocks.

C. B. WALKER  
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**POLLED RAMBOUILLETS****OUR OFFERINGS FOR 1928**

400 Yearling Rams, eligible to registration.  
300 Registered Yearling Ewes.  
Registered Percheron Stallions and Mares.

**W. S. HANSEN COMPANY**  
WYNN S. HANSEN, Mgr.  
Collinston, Utah

**AROUND THE RANGE COUNTRY**

(Continued from page 18)

**NEVADA**

Comparatively mild, settled weather, with few storms, proved highly favorable for live stock, which are emerging from the winter in good shape. The desert ranges are in good condition from a feed-supply standpoint, though precipitation has been deficient and the range is becoming restricted for the want of moisture. Sheep are good, and early lambs are doing well. Some cattle have been turned onto the range, owing to the advance of new grasses in some central and northern counties.

**Gardnerville**

Nevada is getting rather dry. There is not very much snow in the mountains as yet, but we are still looking for storms to make conditions better all around for the coming summer. Sheep are looking fine, as most of them are being fed. We still have plenty of hay.

L. Ruhensroth.

**UTAH**

February is often the hardest month of the winter on live stock, but this time sheep and cattle have held up unusually well, as neither temperature nor weather conditions were severe, and forage within reach of moisture was available most of the time. Live stock on feed were not requiring excessive amounts of feed or care. Toward the close, however range flocks were trailing for water, and moisture is very much needed in these areas throughout the state.

**Alton**

No feeding is necessary in this section during the winter months. At this time February 13, range feed is fair.

Crossbred wools, with a probable shrink of 65 per cent, have been contracted at 29 to 31 cents here, while some fine wool clips having an estimated shrink of 68 per cent have been taken at 29 cents.

No control work has been conducted here against coyotes, so they are holding their own nicely.

I think there were about ten per cent more ewes bred to lamb this spring than in the previous season. Breeding ewes

are worth from \$5 to \$6 for borrowing purposes.

The assessed valuation of grazing lands here is \$5 an acre.

Wm. J. Swapp

#### COLORADO

The month's weather was generally favorable for live stock, being mild and comparatively storm-free; but the lower ranges of both eastern and western counties have lacked moisture, and are now in much need of rain or snow in generous amounts. Sheep and cattle are mostly in good condition; and some feeder sheep have been marketed in the southeastern area. More or less feeding has been done through the month, and cold weather for brief spells pinched some cattle, but the results were not important.

#### Meeker

Since January 1 we have had unusually good weather for live stock, but with a shortage of snow in some sections. At this time, February 8, the snow is about gone, and no extremely cold weather has been recorded since the first of the year.

The winter feed is better than it has been for several years, but the range is overcrowded and the price of alfalfa hay is going up to \$8 and \$10 a ton. Considerable corn and cottonseed cake is fed in this section.

A few more ewes were bred this year than last. The loan value is from \$5 to \$6 per head on breeding ewes.

All of the wool is contracted here. The prices at which the contracts were made ranged from 33 to 34½ cents.

Coyotes are increasing with very little or no trapping or poisoning being done. Our heaviest losses this winter have been from coyotes.

Grazing lands are assessed at \$2.50 an acre.

Orion R. Jones

#### ARIZONA

The spring season is making rather good progress, with new range feed and grasses showing a pretty good start. Live stock are in fair to good condition, having been under the stress of comparatively low temperatures at times. Precipitation has, however, been abundant in most sections and the outlook for spring and summer forage is splendid. Most of the range country is now bare of snow, but water is

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### 100 Lincoln-Rambouillet Ewe Lambs

We have a very choice lot  
of young Rambouillet  
Rams coming on for the  
1928 trade.

If you like Rambouillets with fine,  
white, crimped wool, good bone, legs  
set well apart, and splendid confor-  
mation—

We Grow That Kind

### Day Farms Company

PAROWAN, UTAH

## DEER LODGE FARMS COMPANY

### RAMBOUILLETS Range Rams Our Specialty

We believe that the big ram  
with a long staple fleece that has  
density and fineness and is free  
from body wrinkles and kemp is  
the ideal ram for the range.

If that is the kind of Rambouillet  
ram you like, see ours.

PUREBRED RANGE RAMS  
REGISTERED STUD RAMS  
Small orders or carload lots

## DEER LODGE FARMS COMPANY

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## GOOD YEARLING EWES FOR SALE

13,500 head good, big, smooth type, well bred Rambouillet yearling ewes for delivery out of the wool. Will sell in any size bunches.

Write or Wire, JESS ELROD San Angelo, Texas

We can furnish a fine lot of  
yearling ewes and pairs. Spring  
delivery.

DAYBELL LIVESTOCK CO.  
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#### SHEEP DOGS

There is no other breed can possibly make  
such sheep dogs as the White Collie. This  
we know is absolutely a fact as our years of  
experience with them tell us so. Puppies for  
sale, \$10 to \$15. Pamphlet.

ALVIN C. SKRETTEBERG  
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## MANTI LIVESTOCK COMPANY

MANTI, UTAH



Breeders of Rambouillets for over twenty years.

# WM. BRIGGS & SON

DIXON, CALIFORNIA

We produce  
a high type  
of Ram-  
bouillet.



Briggs 1144—Yearling Rambouillet Ewe. Grand Champion Rambouillet Ewe at California State Fair, 1927.

A choice lot  
of ewes and  
rams for  
sale at all  
times.

When you want to buy  
When you want to sell  
Write or Wire H. F. PATTERSON CO.—Sheep Merchants Billings, Mont.

### Corriedales For Sale

Both Stud Rams and Ewes Descended from the best ewes possible to procure in New Zealand. No cross bred ewes run by us.

The entire Shropshire flock formerly owned by H. R. H. The Prince of Wales at Pekisko, Alta., Canada, now owned by us.  
All Sheep guaranteed as represented.  
To Secure Sheep of the Best Breeding—

WRITE US

### Corriedale Sheep Co.

WALTER C. PRIDDY, Mgr.  
Davis, Calif.

### SHEEP of any kind

### American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Ass'n

Membership Fee \$10—No Annual Dues. Flock Books Free to Members. Volumes XXII and XXIII are being bound together and will soon be ready for distribution. Pedigrees now being received for Volume XXV. Over 115,000 sheep on record.

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For history of the breed, list of members, rules, pedigree blanks, etc., address the Secretary.

### BULLARD BROS.

WOODLAND, CALIFORNIA

### Breeders of Fine Wool Rambouillet Sheep



"Major"—Bullard Bros.' Reserve Champion Ram at Chicago International, 1925  
Flock Founded in 1875

Correspondence Solicited

F. N. Bullard, Manager

plentiful and well distributed. Sheep shearing is progressing over southern counties, with mostly good weather.

### Klondyke

Range feed is growing nicely, after two good rains during February. I only run a few sheep and am not very familiar with general conditions. I think a few more ewes were bred to lamb this spring than for a year ago.

I wish that something could be done about the coyotes. They are increasing in number and nothing very effective is being done to control them.

Alfalfa hay is selling from \$12 to \$15 in the stack. Jake Weathersby

### NEW MEXICO

Precipitation in good amounts and of favorable distribution through the month and over the state gradually expanded the live stock ranging areas, and improved both live stock and range. Live stock are consequently holding up very well, though more rain would help generally, more especially in the lower and southern portions. Moderate feeding was reported, and no losses occurred among live stock. Wheat was in critical condition for a while, but it now appears that much of the planted acreage may be worth saving.

### Hope Star Route

Grass on the range is short (February 28), but there is plenty of strength in it. We had some snow during the early part of the month and some very cold weather. Nearly all of our ewes are fed from March 1 on. Twenty dollars is the going price for alfalfa hay in the stack.

Breeding was done on about the same scale as in the previous season. Some of the lambs have been taken for fall delivery at 10 cents a pound. No wool has been contracted as yet.

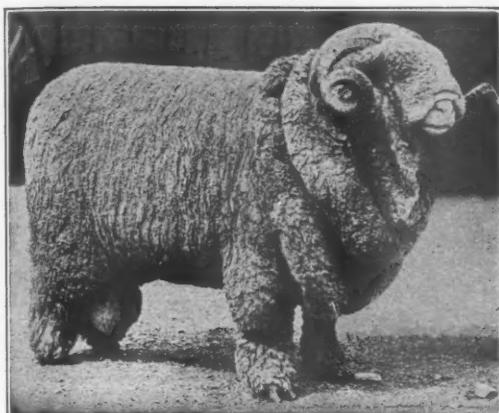
Coyotes are increasing very fast and no steps have been taken so far to prevent it.

Five dollars a head can be borrowed on breeding ewes. J. H. Clements, Jr.

### WESTERN TEXAS

Complaints were made of stormy weather being hard on live stock, but the precipitation has been fine for pastures and ranges, and the outlook for spring ranges is now pretty good. No losses occurred as a result of weather inclemencies.

# CANDLAND RAMBOUILLETS



TAXPAYER



MT. PLEASANT QUEEN

Taxpayer was champion Rambouillet Ram at the Utah State Fair in 1926. Also, winner in 1926 of special prize at the Ogden Live Stock Show for the Rambouillet Ram with the best fleece. Also winner in 1927 of the award for the Rambouillet Ram with the best mutton conformation at the Ogden and Salt Lake Shows and champion again at the Utah State Fair, 1927. Mt. Pleasant Queen was champion Rambouillet Ewe in 1927 at the Salt Lake Show.

We Have Some Large Smooth Rams for Range Purposes. Ewes and Rams in Car Lots or Singly At All Times

**W. D. CANDLAND & SONS, Mt. Pleasant, Utah**

## Mt. Pleasant Rambouillet Farm



"Coolidge"—Many times winner and champion  
Grandson of Old 467

### Our 1927 Show Record

Grand Champion Ram at Ogden Stock Show 1927.  
Grand Champion Ram at the Intermountain Stock Show 1927. Reserve Champion Ram and Grand Champion Ewe at Utah State Fair 1927. Grand Champion Ram and Reserve Champion Ewe at Pacific International 1927. Grand Champion Ewe at American Royal 1927. Reserve Champion Ram and 1st on pen Ram Lambs, Chicago International 1927.

We have averaged the highest prices at the Great Salt Lake Ram Sale the past four years.

Stud Rams our Specialty. Rams and Ewes at all times.

**John K. Madsen, Prop.**

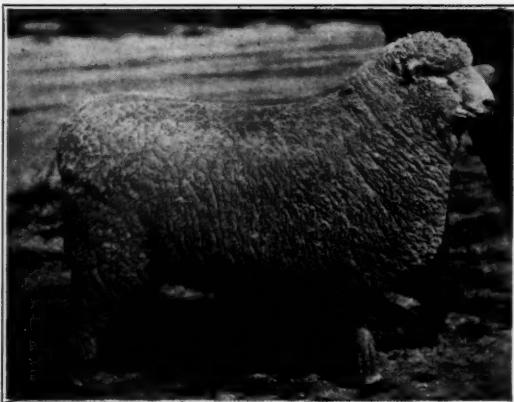
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Phone 174

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and  
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"C" Type Champion Rambouillet Ram, American Royal,  
1927, and Champion Ram at Ogden Live Stock Show, January,  
1928.

Champion Corriedale Ram. First Prize Ram Wyoming and  
Colorado State Fairs; Also at Chicago International, 1927,  
Defeating Importation of Rams from New Zealand; and Cham-  
pion Ram at Ogden Live Stock Show, January, 1928.

#### KING PRODUCTION SATISFY 1927 JUDGES

At the American Royal in B Class Rambouillet our Principal Winnings were 1st in Aged Ram, 2nd and 3rd in Yearling Rams, 2nd in Ram Lamb, 3rd in Yearling Ewe, 3rd in Ewe Lamb, Champion Ram and Champion Flock. American Royal C Class Rambouillet—2nd in Aged Ram, 1st in Yearling Ram, 1st in Ram Lamb, 2nd in Pen Ram Lambs, 1st in Yearling Ewes. Champion Ram, Champion Ewe, Champion Flock.

At the Chicago International—1st in Aged Ram, 4th Yearling Ram, 1st Ewe Lamb, 1st Pen of Ewe Lambs, Champion Ram, Reserve Champion Ewe, and Champion Flock. At the Ogden Live Stock Show, held in January, 1928, we had Champion Ram, Champion Ewe and Champion Flock.

**STOCK OF EITHER BREED SOLD SINGLY OR IN CAR LOTS.**

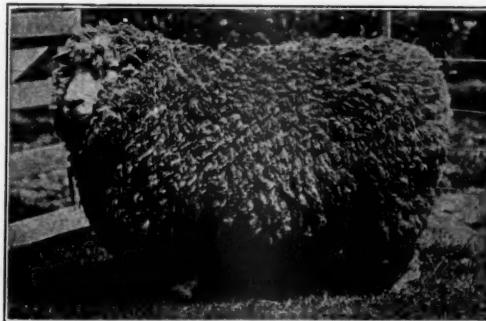
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